



2009 NWTF Sanctioned Calling Contest

Dear Calling Contest Organizer:

Congratulations on your decision to have your wild turkey calling contest sanctioned by the National Wild Turkey Federation. The NWTF is interested in ensuring that calling contests are managed efficiently by providing a uniform standard to follow. We must keep our calling contests both entertaining and educational. The changes for 2009 will be highlighted in bold print in these rules.

Please bear in mind that the guidelines and rules presented in this information are the results of years of experience with calling contests and are designed to enable you to have the finest contest possible. We suggest that you follow the guidelines as closely as possible. The rules and regulations, however, must be adhered to strictly if your contest is to be accepted by the NWTF as a sanctioned event. The Contest Report Form (with all signatures of organizers and witnesses verifying that the rules and regulations were followed to the letter), the Winners List, and the Sign Up Sheets, along with the new members that were signed up, and judges list must be sent immediately after the event. The NWTF reserves the right to change or amend these rules and regulations at any time it is deemed necessary.

Send this information immediately to: NWTF: Calling Contests
PO Box 530
Edgefield, SC 29824-0530 Or Fax to: (803) 637-9960

For a non-chapter, there is an annual \$200 charge to get the event sanctioned. For a NWTF chapter there is a \$50 charge. Payment must accompany application. This is to cover costs for the banner, score pads, rules, mailing labels of wild turkey callers, postage and handling. The fee is nonrefundable. Please contact the NWTF Headquarters at least **two** months before your contest to allow time for shipping. We are proud to be able to assist you with your event and stand ready to help you with any questions or problems that you might have.

Again, congratulations on your decision and good luck with your wild turkey calling contest.

Sincerely,

Tammy M. Condrey
Special Projects Coordinator

ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS (MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO)

GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING AN NWTF SANCTIONED WILD TURKEY CALLING CONTEST

STARTING OFF:

The contest organizer must contact that particular state's chapter president to confirm the contest. The state chapter president or regional director in your area must contact the NWTF headquarters for verification of contest and approval of bill to the chapter, if not paying in advance. The NWTF recognizes state championships contest as one that is held by the state chapter or it's delegate.

ADVERTISING:

1. Start advertising your event at least 6 months in advance. **And strongly encourage pre-registration.**
2. Always include the 4 W's in each new release: Who, What, Where and When the event is to be held.

LOCATION:

1. Choose a location where sound quality is available.
Example: Gymnasiums usually have poor sound qualities.
2. Do not hold the contest in the same area as exhibitors or where outside noise will interfere.
3. **Insure your location will allow you to separate and block the vision of your judges from the stage and from the callers as they approach/depart the stage. Placing the judges backs to the stage and the use of a non-see through curtain is encouraged.**

REGISTRATION:

1. Pre-registration should be strongly encouraged and the fees should provide adequate support to your event. We suggest \$10 to \$50. All callers must be current members of the NWTF. Contestants 18 years and older must be current NWTF member (\$30). Contestants 17 years and younger must be current JAKES or Extreme JAKES member (\$5). Members should have a card to prove their membership. A few membership applications have been included. Feel free to make additional copies if necessary. Please add membership fees, when necessary, into the entry fee. Send the completed membership applications, along with payments, and result sheet, to us.
2. Please Note: If the NWTF receives a contest result form with less than 10 contestants in any senior open or friction division, the 1st place winners for that division will not qualify for the Grand National Championships. However, if there are two or more divisions ie., an open and a friction division at this contest and there are a cumulative total of 10 or more callers in the combined senior contests, the first place winners will advance to the Grand National Calling Contest the following year. Also the NWTF may choose not to sanction calling contest with less than 10 total senior contestants the following year.
3. The sign up sheet provided should be used to register contestants and receive entry fees. Copies may be made but originals must be returned with the results. Post the calls early the morning of the contest. (Three to five people make a good registration team.)
4. Post all entrants on a scoring chart before the contest begins. This should be a poster paper size chart made out exactly like the example enclosed. (See sample scoring chart) If over 30 callers are entered in a division, a preliminary round should be held with 10-12 competing in the finals.

SOUND SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1. The M.C. must maintain quiet in the audience at all times.
2. Use a public address system for the M.C. but not the callers.

NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION BANNER

1. The 2009 National Wild Turkey Federation Sanctioned Calling Contest banner must be displayed during the entire contest in a prominent location. Contestants and the audience must be able to view it during the contest. We suggest that it be hung on the stage's back wall (that faces the audience.)
2. Suggestions for additional uses of the banner:
3. Have all callers and judges sign the banner and give it away as part of a winner's package.
4. Keep each banner in your chapter's archives (have all callers and judges sign each banner each year) and display every banner at each contest to show your chapter's contest history.

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 M.C. 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, only the score derived while calling the second calling position 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. You must continue to re draw until a number one (1) is drawn.
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 or approach or depart the calling area.
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 from the judges, you would drop the 70 & 77 and add remain scores = Grand Total score of 223. (Do not average the scores). 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. Additional rules may be added if necessary, however, these basic rules must be followed.

WINNERS & TROPHIES

1. If you elect to give prize money be sure to secure a sponsor(s) to cover all expenses. Trophies, guns, and clothing also serve as excellent prizes.
2. From 3 to 5 places should be awarded to the winners of each contest.
3. The enclosed Contest Report Form, Winners List and Sign up Sheets must be completed and returned.

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, friction, youth, owl hooting, and gobbling.

PLEASE NOTE: We highly encourage you to follow the age limits set for the Grand National calling contest. However, contest organizer 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, therefore no caller would be qualified to advance to the Grand Nationals from your Senior division.) We urge you not to allow callers to call in your senior division who will not be 21 years old on or before February 19, 2010. 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. If you have any questions concerning the age limits please do not hesitate to call the NWTF Headquarters for more information.

Open and Friction contest with a minimum of 10 contestants in each contest or a cumulative total of 10 contestants between both contest will advance their first place winners to the grand national calling championships the following year. State Championships are excluded from this rule. Winners between January 1, 2009 and January 29, 2010, and who are or will be 21 years of age by the date of the GNCC contest, will be qualify to compete in the 2010 Wild Turkey Bourbon/ NWTF Grand National Calling Championships. Note: Suggested age of 21 in senior contest is based on a contestant becoming 21 years of age on or before the GNCC!

- Any Open Contest other than a State Open Championship - open to anyone who wishes to enter - suggested ages: 21 and older. First place winners in this division who are at least 21 years of age, and who competed in a local contest with at least 10 people in all divisions held, will qualify for the senior division prelims division at the grand national calling championship the following year.
- State Championship Division- must be a resident of the state for which the contest is being held. The state chapter or their designee must host this contest to attain a state champion - suggested ages: 21 and older. First place winners in this division who are at least 21 years of age, will qualify for the senior division prelims on at the grand national calling championship the following year.
- State Open Championships are open to non-state residents - suggested ages: 21 and older. First place winners in this division who are at least 21 years of age, and who competed in a local contest with at least 10 people in all divisions held, will qualify for the senior division prelims division at the grand national calling championship the following year.
- State Friction Championship Division- must be a resident of the state for which the contest is being held. The state chapter or their designee must host this contest to attain a state champion - suggested ages: 21 and older. First place winners in this division who are at least 21 years of age, will qualify for the senior friction division at the grand national calling championship the following year.
- Any Friction Division other than a State Friction Championship –open to anyone who wishes to enter – suggested ages: 21 and older. First place winners in this division who are at least 21 years of age, and who competed in a local contest with at least 10 people in all divisions held, will qualify for the senior friction division at the grand national calling championship the following year.
- 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 them to enter the grand nationals.
- Owl Hooting - Open to any age – suggested ages: 21 and older. This division does not have to qualify to enter the grand nationals. Must be 21 or older to compete in the grand nationals.
- Gobbling - Open to any age – suggested ages: 21 and older. This division does not have to qualify to enter the grand nationals. Must be 21 or older to compete in the grand nationals.
- There must be a calling contest division held for each championship awarded. (You may not have one contest and award two different championships). Ex: you cannot hold a combined open and state championship and declare your 1st place open winners as the champion and the top state caller as the state champion.

GRAND NATIONAL CALLING CONTEST AGE LIMITS

- Grand National Senior division, Friction, Owl Hooting, Gobbling, Champion of Champions, Team Challenge and Friction divisions or the Spit, Drum & Gobbling Show: 21 years of age or older on the day of the contest
- *Grand National Intermediate Division: 16 – 20 years of age on the day of the contest
- *Grand National Junior Division: 15 years of age or younger on the day of the contest
 - *The Intermediate and Junior divisions do not have to pre-qualify for GNCC. Anyone can enter.

DO'S AND DO NOT'S

DO

1. Do allow plenty of time to get the event organized - start months in advance.
2. Do publicize the event well **and pre-register**.
3. Do have plenty of people on hand to assist.
4. Do set up as much as possible the day before the event.
5. Do pick good, competent judges and a good M.C.
6. Do follow the guidelines and rules provided.
7. Do check to ensure that all contestants are current members of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

DO NOT

1. Don't wait until the last minute to get started.
2. Don't have too many divisions.
3. Don't delay the returning of your Contest Report Form, Winners List and Sign Up Sheets of your contest.
4. Don't forget to make your contest entertaining, educational and above all, have a good time.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATIONS

1. Numbered slips for drawing.
2. Scoring Chart (see sample below).
3. Score sheets for judges.
4. Prizes or trophies.
5. Tables and chairs for judges.
6. Tables and chairs for scorers.
7. Pens for judges, pencils for scorers.
8. Two silent adding machines.
9. P.A. system.
10. Podium and stool for M.C.

Step-by-Step Instructions to Hold a NWTF Sanctioned Calling Contest

Caller's Sign Up Table

1. Have sign up sheets for each division out on a table. Write the division and entry fee at the top of each sign up sheet. As callers sign up and pay their entry fee be sure to check that they are current NWTF members. They may renew their membership at your calling contest if they are expired or do not have proof of current NWTF membership.
2. Have a sign informing the callers of the calls required for each division.
3. Have a sign informing the callers of the time and place to meet to draw numbers and to go over the rules of the contest.

Meeting to Draw Numbers & Review Rules

1. Judges and callers must be present.
2. Contest organizer informs the callers of any specific details of the divisions. Example: Special time limits, who will be letting them know when it is their turn, where to enter the stage, where to exit the stage, etc.
3. Callers may ask the judges any specific questions.
4. Send the judges to the judge's table, the callers should not have any further contact with the judges.
5. Callers draw numbers for order of calling.
6. Send the callers to the pre-calling area/room.

Time Limit

1. There should be a 1-minute time limit per required call, running continuously, based on the number of calls required. EXAMPLE: If you have 5 calls required then you would have a 5-minute time limit per caller to complete all their calls. The caller's time begins when they utter the first note and ends when they signify to the emcee that they are finished. A 5- point penalty may be assessed for going over the time limit.

Final Details

1. Make sure that the judges, scorers, callers, and emcee are ready to begin the contest.
2. Update the emcee on the exact number of contestants in each division.
3. Have a person coordinating the callers, making sure that a caller is "on deck" to immediately follow each caller as they finish.
4. If the scorer's table is not within reaching distance of the judge's table, have a person who will collect the score sheets from the judges and deliver them to the scorers.

Contest Details

1. The emcee should welcome your attendees to the contest and make any special announcements before the contest begins. Emcee will announce the entry of each caller by number. The emcees suggested script when a caller is on the stage is as follows. He calls a caller to the stage: "Caller number X" (when the caller arrives on the stage and sets down his calls and water) The emcee asks if the caller is ready: "Caller number X, are you ready?" (caller nods) "Caller number X, please give us your best rendition of the X call. (caller will do the specified call twice and the nod to let the emcee know to proceed to the next call) After all the required calls have been performed by the caller, the emcee will let him know it is okay to exit the stage by saying, "Thank you caller number X" Then the emcee summons the next caller to the stage by saying: "Caller number X"
2. The judges will score each caller.
3. The scores will add up each score sheet, drop the lowest and the highest score, then add the middle scores together to calculate the caller's final score. The scorer should write this final score on the caller's score sheets and staple all of the caller's score sheets together.
4. After all callers have performed and before trophies are presented, the scorer checks to see if there is a tie between callers.
5. If there is a tie: each caller tied for any position is called back up on the stage, in the order of their calling number, and asked to do all required calls again. The scorers will tabulate and use this last score as the tiebreaker
6. After the scorer confirms that all ties were broken and verifies that the scores are correct, proceed to the awards ceremony.

Thank you and good luck with your NWTF Sanctioned Calling Contest!



TO BE SIGNED BY ALL 2009 CONTESTANTS (Form 3 to return)

DIVISION: _____

ENTRY FEE: _____

I hereby certify that I am a current member of the National Wild Turkey Federation and that the information recorded below is true and correct.

Membership # Name Street Address, State, Zip

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DIVISION: _____ **ENTRY FEE:** _____

I hereby certify that I am a current member of the National Wild Turkey Federation and that the information recorded below is true and correct.

**The following forms must be returned to the NWTF Headquarters
within 30 days after your calling contest:**

- 1. The Contest Report Form**
- 2. The Contest's Winners List**
- 3. The Contestant Sign up Sheets**
- 4. Chapter Membership Gun Incentive Program Form**
- 5. List of judges used**

Send the above forms (completed) to:

NWTF

Attn: Sanctioned Calling Contests

P O Box 530

Edgefield, SC 29824-0530

Or Fax (803) 637-9960

2009 N.W.T.F. CALLING CONTEST REPORT FORM (Form 1 to return)

Name of Event: _____

Date of Contest: _____

Location: _____

Chapter or organization hosting event: _____

I certify that this wild turkey calling contest was carried out in accordance with the rules and regulations as set forth by the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Signed,

Organizer

Organizer's Day Phone Number

Please Print Organizer's Name

Send completed form to: **N.W.T.F.**
ATTN: Calling Contests
P. O. Box 530
Edgefield, SC 29824-0530

Or fax completed form to: 803-637-9960
Attn: Calling Contests



2009 N.W.T.F. CALLING CONTEST WINNERS LIST (Form 2 to return)

Name of Contest

Date

DIVISION:					
Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				

	3 rd :				
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DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

2009 N.W.T.F. CALLING CONTEST WINNERS LIST (Form 2 to return)

Name of Contest

Date

DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				

	3 rd :				
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DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

DIVISION:

Membership #	NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP
	1 st :				
	2 nd :				
	3 rd :				

***NEW MEMBERS SIGNED UP AT YOUR CONTEST MAY BE USED TOWARD YOUR CHAPTER'S GUN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR YOUR NEXT BANQUET.**

Complete this form with the correct information regarding new memberships signed up at your contest, and return it with the new membership applications and money received for memberships with your Contest Report Form, Winners List, and the Sign Up Sheets. All new memberships received and membership money must be received at least 8 weeks prior to your upcoming banquet in order to be applied toward your chapter's gun incentive program. If you have any questions about this program, please call the NWTF's Headquarters (800-843-6983).

This form must be completed in order for new memberships to be credited to your chapter's gun incentives!

Chapter Membership Gun Incentive Program Form (Form 4 to return)

Month of Event: _____

State: _____

Chapter: _____

Please add these memberships to our upcoming banquet to be held on: _____
BQ Date

Name and phone number of contact person for this chapter event:

 Name Daytime phone

Total number of members recruited at this event: _____

# of JAKES:		X \$7.00	=	\$
# of Extreme JAKES:		X \$10.00	=	\$
# of Sponsors:		X \$235.00	=	\$
# of Regular:		X \$30.00	=	\$
# of WITO Members:		X \$30.00	=	\$
# of Wheelin' Sportsmen:		X \$30.00	=	\$
Other type membership				\$
		Total amount due:		\$

Please make checks payable to the NWTF and return this form with membership applications and payment.

**BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE MEMBERSHIPS THAT WERE SOLD AT YOUR EVENT SO THAT
 THEY MAY BE PROPERLY PROCESSED.**

Form 5 to be returned with results

Please provide us with the names and phone numbers of the judges used at your contest and indicate if they would like to be added to the database of judges.

These judges were used at the _____
Contest name

1. _____
Name Phone Add

Address

2. _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____

3. Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____

4. Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____

5. Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____

6. Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____

7. Name _____ Phone _____ Add _____
Address _____



2009 NWTF SANCTIONED CALLING CONTEST

Sanctioned Calling Contest Package Contains: 5 Calling Contest Score Pads, 1 Calling Contest Banner with Rope, 1 Copy of the Calling Contest Rules, Caller Mailing Labels, Regular, Women in the Outdoors and JAKES Membership Applications

Sanctioning Fees: Chapter \$50.00 Non-Chapter \$200.00

Check Enclosed for \$ _____ Please charge credit card: AM/EX VISA MC DISCOVER

_____ - _____ - _____ Exp. ____ / ____

Name of Sponsor: (Chapter name or business) _____ NWTF Regional Director for Chapter

State: _____ Contest Date: _____

Contest Name: _____

Contact & Shipping:

Name _____
Street Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

***Please give street address Fed Ex and UPS can not ship to P.O. Box or RR**

Bill To: Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____

Selected states for caller mailing labels: (Usually your state and surrounding states is sufficient.)

Location, address, directions or any other special info:

Please mail check and application to: NWTF – SCC, P.O. Box 530, Edgefield, SC 29824-0530
Fax 803-637-9960 Email tcondrey@nwtf.net