



Calling Contest Rules & Regulations

World Championship Goose Calling Contest®

1. The World Championship Goose Calling Contest® and its images are property of the Waterfowl Festival, Inc. Unless specifically authorized in writing by the Executive Director of the Waterfowl Festival, recordings of the World Championship Goose Calling Contest®, including preliminary and final rounds of competition, for both Senior and Junior divisions, are strictly prohibited.
2. A caller of any age may enter. There will be a Junior and Senior division. A caller who has not attained his/her 17th birthday by the date of the contest can be considered a Junior. Juniors may compete in both the Junior and Senior Divisions. Proof of birth date may be required by judges.
3. **Registration** will be by official Registration Form only. You may download the form from our website, www.waterfowlfestival.org: click on Calling Contest, then click on Registration Form. You may request a copy by contacting Rae Copper at rcopper@waterfowlfestival.org or 410-822-4567. Registration Forms may also be obtained in person at the Waterfowl Festival office (40 S. Harrison St., Easton) or at the Easton High School Auditorium the day of preliminaries.
4. **Senior Preliminary elimination** will be held in the Easton High School Auditorium on **Friday, beginning at 3:00 pm.** *Junior preliminaries will be held on Saturday, beginning at 12:00 noon.* The pool of callers will be narrowed to five finalists per division who will compete for the championship on Saturday at 7:00 pm.
REMINDER: All pre-registered contestants **MUST** check in with the Scorekeeper to confirm their pre-registration some time within the hour preceding the contest.
5. Contestants are required to face the audience.
6. Contestants will call from a blind for 90 seconds in full view of the audience but concealed from the judges. As the contestant takes position in the blind, a red light will be turned on. Contestant will be asked whether he/she wants a "warm up" which is not to exceed 10 seconds. Contestant must make no sound except for calling on stage. When contestant starts calling the red light goes off. After 80 seconds the red light comes back on which signifies that there are only 10 seconds left to complete his/her call. At 90 seconds, the red light goes off. Failure to complete the call before the light goes off will disqualify the contestant from further competition in the contest.
7. Callers must blow the "Hail" call, followed by the "Come On" call, then the "Come Back" call and finally, the "Confidence" call of the Canada Goose. Time of calling is not to exceed 90 seconds.
8. Callers may use any legal pneumatic, voice or mechanical calls. Electronic calls are illegal.
9. For any reason, the judges may ask the contestants to repeat calls.

World Championship Goose Calling Contest® Rules continued:

10. Contestants will be known by number only. Numbers will be selected by chance at the last minute in the warm up room under supervision for each of the two preliminary rounds and the final event. No contestant can leave the isolation room until the conclusion of the contest.
11. Scoring will be on a point system. There will be five judges. The highest score a judge can give is one hundred points. The total number of points will be determined by totaling the score after eliminating the highest and lowest scores. The contestant with the highest total accumulated score shall be declared the winner with the next highest second and so forth. Decisions of the judges in all matters is final.
12. There are no ties. In the event of a tie in prelims, a call-off will be held in order to reach the top five finalists. In the event of a tie in the finals, a call-off will determine individual place standings.
13. Any conduct unbecoming a sportsman shall result in disqualification.
14. Be respectful of callers on stage. No talking during competition and all cell phones must be turned off prior to entering auditorium.
15. Callers winning either the Junior or Senior Division of the World Championship Goose Calling Contest® three times will be retired from further competition.
16. Winners of the Senior World Championship Goose Calling Contest® will be eligible to compete in the World Goose Calling Champion of Champions Contest which is held every five years at the Waterfowl Festival. The next contest will be in the year 2010.

Talbot County Public Schools Policy: NO TOBACCO PRODUCTS, NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, NO Guns and No DOGS allowed on school property. NO FOOD OR DRINK allowed in the Auditorium (including hallway, bathrooms, stage and dressing areas). Your respect of the above is imperative to the continuation of the Calling Contests.