

2016 Best of the West Taxidermy Championship Divisions

There are five levels, or divisions, in the competition. Multiple first, second, and third place ribbons will be awarded in each division.

Youth: For youth 16 years and under.

Novice Division: This division is intended for the beginning taxidermist, and to give first time competitors a taste of competition without putting too much pressure on the individual. It is the easiest division to win a ribbon in. If you have never competed before it is not necessary for you to enter the novice division, especially if you are an experienced taxidermist. All entries in this division compete for the **Best of Novice** Award. (Those who have won the **Best of Novice** Award in a previous competition are required to compete in the Professional Division thereafter.)

Professional Division: This division is for experienced taxidermists to compete in. There are multiple categories in this division and the highest scoring blue ribbon mount in each category will receive the **Best of Professional** 'category' ribbon. (Those who have won a **Best of Professional** 'category' ribbon in the past are required to compete in the Masters Division for that category thereafter.)

Categories for *Best of Professional*

- Bird, Bird group, Waterfowl, Waterfowl group, Mule deer head, Whitetail deer head, Small Game head, Large Game head (caribou or larger), Small mammal, Medium mammal, Large mammal, Mammal group, Fish skin, Fish reproduction, Mixed group (There is a Reptile/Amphibian category but no Best of Category ribbon or award unless sponsored.) For 2016, Antelope Game Head is it's own category because we have a sponsor providing specific awards for this category.

Masters Division: This division is the toughest to compete in. It is for those who are experienced competitors. The highest scoring blue ribbon in each category will receive the **Best of Masters** 'category' ribbon.

Categories for *Best of Masters*

- Bird, Bird group, Waterfowl, Waterfowl group, Mule deer head, Whitetail deer head, Small Game head, Large Game head (caribou or larger), Small mammal, Medium mammal, Large mammal, Mammal group, Fish skin, Fish reproduction, Mixed group (There is a Reptile/Amphibian category but no Best of Category ribbon or award unless sponsored.) For 2016, Antelope Game Head is it's own category because we have a sponsor providing specific awards for this category.

Commercial Division: This division is strictly for commercial judging from 10 feet away, no show detail needed just a glance and a simple blue, red or white ribbon. No critiques will be given on Commercial Division mounts, the judge writes a brief comment and overall score, NOT a detailed score sheet.

Original Art Entries: This is for those entries that do not fit into a category. This may include skeletons, skulls, horn/antler plaques, manikin sculptures, bronze sculptures, drawn or painted artwork, mythical creatures, rugs, etc. The highest scoring original art entry will win the ***Best Original Art*** ribbon.

Team Entries: Any group of 2 or more people can enter a team entry in the show. The team entry may have one or multiple mounts/artwork to it. Each mount/artwork in the team entry will be judged separately and the team with the highest average score will win the ***Best Team Entry*** ribbon.