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Section 8: Competition and Art Show Rules

"Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition"

1) California Association of Taxidermists, (CAT), may hold a Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition annually, preferably in the months or March or April.
2) The CAT Board shall set the sites, dates and times of the Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition.
3) The CAT Board shall set the fees and conditions for attending the Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition.
4) The CAT annual membership dues and all Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition fees shall be paid by cash, check, money order or credit card or electronic transfer i.e.: Venmo
5) The Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition may be open to current CAT members who have paid all fees and meet all conditions set by the CAT Board.
6) The CAT Board may authorize the paying of cash prizes to winners of selected Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition categories, or as a bonus to persons winning certain major or special competition awards. These cash prizes shall be considered as normal Annual Taxidermy Art Show Convention and Competition costs.

"Art Show Description"

Members bring their taxidermy mounts or art and compete in our four (4) levels of competition. The show is three (3) days long, usually held on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The board hires judges, category specific, to judge and critique the mounts entered by the members. During the show, taxidermy suppliers and others promote their products or talents as vendors to reach out to our members. Also, the board organizes seminars that take place during the show that members can attend in order to grow their trade or skill set.

The CAT board also hosts two (2) dinners. The first is the Member's Meeting, open to current CAT members only. At the Member's Meeting there is a raffle and/or auction. The members also vote in new board directors as need be. The second dinner is the Awards Banquet. This dinner is open to current CAT members and their families. During this banquet, the CAT board awards and recognizes the achievements of the members who competed it the competition.

Membership is required to compete at the show.

"Disqualifications"

Any entry that is disqualified or removed from competition by the judges or by the CAT board **will not** be eligible to receive any awards. Examples: entries that are not cured (dried), or entries that are removed from competition by the judges or the CAT board on grounds of poor taste or that have been determined

to be someone else's work. **Any entry that is not cured or dry will receive their critique, but will not receive any score or be eligible for any awards.**

"Illegal or Protected Species"

CAT absolutely will not allow any "illegal to possess" species of animal to be entered into the CAT Art Show Competition. NO EXCEPTIONS!

CAT will allow protected species of animals to be entered into the CAT Art Show Competition, if the competitor is legally in possession of the animal(s), has legally transported the animal(s), and has acquired all required State and Federal permits.

All required permits, including but not limited to collecting, possession and transportation must be presented with the entry at the time of the Art Show Competition registration. Permits must stay with the CAT Art Show Competition entry at all times and copies shall be provided for the CAT Art Show Competition registrar to keep with the entry(s) permanent registration record. Again, NO EXCEPTIONS!

"Judging Standards and Social Media Conflicts"

Judging is conducted in a fair and ethical manner. Conflicts of interest are addressed and the process of judging and final decision making is as transparent as possible while maintaining the integrity of the process. Effective policies and procedures are in place and understood and adhered to by all involved. All of those involved in judging and in making winner selections do so with the best interest of the participants. The decisions of judges are final.

In order to avoid any conflicts of interest or bias from the judges, **posting photos to social media sites prior to the competition is discouraged.** By keeping the information of the participating taxidermists anonymous, the judges will have no way of identifying the participants or their entries.

"Non Attendee"Art Show Competition Entries"

Current CAT members may place entries in the CAT Art Show Competition without purchasing the Competition Art Show "Package". These entries are referred to as a Non-Attendee Entry, and require the payment of a special entry fee.

Current CAT members may personally bring their non-attendee entries or they may send their non-attendee entries with another person, whom they have authorized to act on their behalf. Or, they may ship their non-attendee entries by commercial carrier.

Each member, availing themselves of this non-attendee entry option, will be solely responsible for all transportation of, and all other arrangements for their entries. This includes, but is not limited to: Insurance, handling, delivery, receipt, return, crating and uncrating of their entry pieces. Also competition registration and appropriate fee payment for all entries. CAT assumes no responsibility or liability for any non-attendee entry/ies.

Non-attendee entries may be placed in any of the 27 Standard Competition Categories only, at one of the four competition levels that the member qualifies for. All appropriate scoring and placement rules of the selected competition level, apply to each entry. Only the selected competition level appropriate placement ribbons will be awarded to non-attendee entries. Open (Professional) Class non-attendee entries will receive points that are earned towards their Masters Award. **NOTE:** Non-attendee entries **are not** eligible to receive any of the CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition major or special awards. This includes but is not limited to Awards for: Best of Category, California/State Challenge, Best of Show, Best of Habitat, any Memorial Awards, Choice, Horizon or other organization's Awards.

"Masters Award Entries and Qualifications"

If you are from out of state and have qualified for your Masters award in a certain category, you must compete at the Masters level in that same category at a California Taxidermy Competition.

Masters Awards are available to CAT members for five (5) standard "Competition Category Divisions": Birds, Game Heads, Life Size Mammals, Fish and Reptiles.

In order for a CAT member to qualify for a Masters Award, the member must first accumulate twenty-four (24) CAT Art Show Competition points and three (3) First Place (blue) ribbons in the standard competition category division of their choosing.

Only CAT Art Show Competition points received in the Open/Professional class of competition apply towards qualifying for the Masters Award.

CAT Art Show Competition points received in the novice and junior classes of competition do not apply towards qualifying for the Masters Award.

PLACEMENT CRITERIA ARE AS FOLLOWS

Placements in the Open Class, (Professional), of competition that convey Art Show Competition points towards qualifying for a Masters Award are as follows:

Best of Category – 4 points First Place – 3 points Second Place – 2 points Third Place - 1 point

Once a member qualifies for a Masters Award in a particular Standard Competition Category Division, that member must always enter in the Masters Class of competition for that competition category. The Open Class (Professional) of competition is still available to that member for the remaining competition categories.

"Novice and Junior Competition Levels"

A competitor must choose either the Novice or the Junior level of competition. A competitor's entries may not be placed in both the novice and junior levels.

The Novice level of competition is reserved for taxidermists of any age who have never entered in the Open/Professional level of competition and have never received a first place ribbon in the novice level of competition. Novice level competitors must be current paid members of CAT and pay all appropriate registration and entry fees.

The Junior Level of competition is reserved for taxidermists 15 years of age or younger. Junior level competitors do not have to pay annual Membership dues if their parent/guardian is a current member of CAT. If the junior competitor's parent/guardian is not a current member of CAT, the junior competitor will have to pay the CAT current membership dues fee. All junior level competitors will also pay a fee of $5.00 per entry.

If needed, the current CAT President may appoint attending CAT Master Taxidermists to judge novice and junior level entries. Novice and junior level entries are judged using the standard CAT competition score sheets. Multiple placement ribbons are awarded. Placement Criteria Are As Follows:

In the novice level of competition, First Place is awarded to scores of 85 to 100 points, Second Place is awarded to scores of 60 to 79 points and Third Place is awarded to scores of 50 to 59 points.

In the junior level of competition, First Place is awarded to scores of 80 to 100 points, Second Place is awarded to scores of 60 to 79 points and Third Place is awarded to scores of 50 to 59 points.There are no Best of Category Award ribbons or Honorable Mention placements in the novice and junior levels of competition. Also, competition placements in the novice and junior levels do not apply toward the achievement of the CAT Master Taxidermist Award.

NOVICE		*JUNIOR*	
First Place	85 to 100 points	First Place	80 to 100 points
Second Place	60 to 79 points	Second Place	60 to 79 points
Third Place	50 to 59 points	Third Place	50 to 59 points

"Interpretative Entries"

The Interpretative Category will be judged on a head to head open division challenge. It shall have a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbon and a trophy/plaque shall be awarded to the Best of Category at the annual Awards Banquet. Competitors entering this category will do so understanding art is subjective and while all taxidermists are artists, we differ in skill sets. Judges who are hired to judge conventional categories will conduct Judging and Critiques. Challenging of scores will not be allowed. The interpretative category shall include taxidermy done in good taste. An entry must contain a taxidermy specimen of either a whole specimen or parts thereof that have been preserved thru modern taxidermy methods or casting. If the CAT President determines that an entry is in bad taste or portrays the Art of Taxidermy in a bad light, that entry may be disqualified from the competition.

"Novelty Entries"

The Novelty Category is available in the Professional, Novice and Junior classes of competition. Each class will be judged separate from the other classes. When possible, each competition class will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons that are appropriate to their class. Novelty competition entries must not be qualified for entry into any other Taxidermy Art Show Competition category. Entries into the novelty category may be anything a competitor can imagine but must include parts of real animals and shall be portrayed in good taste. If the CAT President determines that an entry is in bad taste or portrays the Art of Taxidermy in a bad light, that entry may be disqualified from the competition.

"Interpretative and Novelty Entries

As Interpretative and Novelty entries do not adhere to a strict standard of anatomical accuracy they are prone to vast swings in scores from Judge to Judge. This variance in consistency will cause animosity and may negatively impact the Taxidermy Awards. These entries will not be allowed to compete in Challenges where anatomical accuracy decides the winner. Examples: Taxidermist of the Year, Team Challenge, Horizon Award….etc.

"Placement Score Ranges"

MASTER CLASS	**OPEN CLASS**
90-100 - First Place - Blue	90-100 - First Place - Blue
80-89 - Second Place - Red	80-89 - Second Place - Red
70-79 – Third Place - White	70-79 – Third Place - White
No Honorable Mention	65-69 Honorable Mention - Green
NOVICE CLASS	**JUNIOR CLASS**
90-100 - First Place - Blue	90-100 - First Place - Blue
80-89 - Second Place - Red	80-89 - Second Place - Red
70-79 – Third Place - White	70-79 – Third Place - White
No Honorable Mention	No Honorable Mention

Best of Category Ribbons are awarded in Master Class and Open/Professional Class only. First place ribbon is blue; second place ribbon is red; third place ribbon is white and honorable mention ribbon is green.

"Resolving Tie Competition Scores"

This is the official policy by which CAT will resolve tie competition scores as they apply to the selection of competition award winners.

This official policy applies in all situations where tie competition scores compromise the selection of award winners. Competition judges of the entries in question will be asked to agree upon a consensus decision as to which entry is to be the recipient of the award.

If the competition judges of the entries in question cannot agree upon a decision as to which entry is to receive the award, each entry will receive an equal award.

"Seminar Attendance"

Attendance of the CAT Taxidermy Art Show seminars is permitted for current paid members who purchase the applicable Seminar or Show Package during the show registration. This applicable package also allows for the registered member's spouse to attend CAT Taxidermy Art Show seminars. Board members are not required to purchase the Art Show Seminar Package due to the fact they will be working the show and not able to fully complete a seminar.

Attendance to the seminars is also permitted for current paid members who purchase the show's individual a la carte seminars. The purchase of individual a la carte seminars allows for CAT Taxidermy Art Show seminars attendance by the currently paid member only.

Current CAT Taxidermy Art Show wrist band must be worn in plain sight by persons wishing to attend the seminars. No wrist band, no admittance, no exceptions.

Major/Special Awards

"Best of Category"

The highest scoring entry, in each of the Annual Competition and Art Show, categories 1 (one) through 27 twenty seven. (Can be found under competition forms.)

"Best of Category Habitat"

Entry into the Best of Category Habitat is available only to taxidermists who purchase the Art Show Package.

Only habitats entered into the five (5) major competition categories: Birds, Game Heads, Life Size Mammals, Fish and Reptiles will be judged. Habitats may not be entered on their own. They must be an integral part of a Bird, Game Head, and Life Size Mammal, Fish or Reptile competition entry. All applicable competition entry fees must be paid including an additional fee for the Best of Habitat category.

Habitats will be evaluated by the person selected to judge habitats at the respective CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition. Habitats will be scored using the official Habitat Score Sheet. The highest scoring entry in each habitat category is the winner. Only one (1) ribbon is awarded in each of the habitat categories. Note: (This category does not apply to Non-Attendee competition entries. Non –Attendee Competition entries may only be entered in Standard Competition categories 1 thru 27.)

"Best Presentation of a Fish Carving"

The highest scoring entry in this category wins. Selected by Judges.

"Breakthrough Best of Show"

Selected by Judges: Best of Show

"Chad Hornbuckle Memorial Award"

This Belt Buckle Award shall be given to the competitor with the largest improvement in score in a given division on a year to year basis. Eligible entries must be in consecutive years and in the same sub-categories of competition. Example: You bring a deer this year and receive a score of 72, Next year you bring a deer and get a score of 84. Your improvement over last year's score is 12. This must be in consecutive years. For the purpose of establishing a measurable gain in anatomic knowledge, this award shall not be given to Novelty/Interpretative entries. This award also does not apply to Novice or Junior level entries.

"Closest to the Photo Award"

The closest to the photo winner will be chosen by the Judges. The competition will be in the Bird category. The CAT board will choose the next year's competition photo. (Habitat on this piece will not be judged, only the bird).

"Commercial Division Award"

The commercial division award is open to all levels of competition. When this category is entered into, the piece entered is not eligible for any other awards in any other categories. The piece entered is also not eligible for critique by the Judges. Judging will take place from a 15 food distance by the Judges, and there will be first, second and third place ribbons awarded.

"Golden State (California) Challenge Categories Criteria"

Entry into State Challenge Categories is available only to taxidermists who purchase the Art Show Package.

State Challenge Category Competitors may be in the Masters, Open or Novice competition class levels. State Challenge category entries may not be entered into any other competition category. State Challenge Category entries may not share a base with another species. If there is more than one of the same challenge subjects on the same base, each must be entered in the same challenge category.

There will be only one winner in each of the State Challenge Categories. The non-winner State Challenge Category entries may receive their earned placement ribbon of their respective competitor's competition class level. Open/Professional class level entries will receive the points they earned toward a Masters Award. The CAT board will choose the next year's competition subject.

2017	Water Scene
2018	Any Open Mouth
2019	Best description of “Life in Motion” as chosen by the Judges
2020	No Show COVID
2021	
2022	Two (2) pieces on the same base.
2023	Two Different Species on one base.
2024	Best Depiction of “Life In Motion”
2025	
2026	

CAT Administrative Board Decision on 4/25/08:

“Effective immediately, competition entries into the State Challenge Categories #34, #35, #36 and #37 will not be eligible to receive any major/special awards that the CAT administrative board selects, or any major/special awards that are selected directly by the competition judges or as a result of scoring by the competition judges.” State Challenge Competition Category entries are not eligible to receive the major/special awards listed below:

MAJOR/SPECIAL AWARDS	MAJOR/SPECIAL AWARDS
Best of Category (Categories 1 thru 27)	Taxidermists Choice Best of Show
Best of Category Habitats	Spouse’s Choice Best of Show
Western States Team Challenge	People’s Choice Best of Show
Collective Artisan’s Presentation	Taxidermist of the Year
Highest Scoring Entries	Judge’s Choice Best of Show
Vice President’s Award	Best Presentation of A Fish Carving
Wasco Most Artistic Entry Award	Wasco Polytranspar Award
Horizon Awards	Jim Barrango Memorial Award
Research Mannikins Black Tail Award	Research Mannikins Highest Scoring Junior Award
Research Mannikins Highest Scoring Novice Award	McKenzie Taxidermist’s Choice Award
Van Dyke’s Most Original & Creative Presentation	Lauren Johnson Memorial Award

“Highest Scoring Entry Award”

Only taxidermists who purchase the Art Show Package are qualified to receive the Highest Scoring Entry Award.

Only the Judges scores of the CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition entries in the standard competition categories 1 thru 27 are considered for a Highest Scoring Entry Award.

The Highest Scoring Entry Awards are presented to the competitors whose competition entries receive the highest judge’s score in each of the four (4) CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition classes: Masters, Open/Professional, Junior and Novice.

In the case of ties of the highest scores in any or all four CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition classes, the pertinent judge(s) involved will be asked to break ties by consensus opinion. If the tie cannot be broken, multiple awards will be given.

"Horizon Award"

Only the competition entries of persons who have purchased the Art Show Package will be eligible to receive a Horizon Award.

The Horizon Award was established through the generosity of Joe and Betty Troutman of Troutman's Wholesale Rug Works. The Horizon Award is to be presented, when possible in the Open/Professional, Novice and Junior classes of competition.

The Horizon Award recognizes the achievements of persons who are first time competitors in a Taxidermy Art Show Competition. To be eligible to compete for the Horizon Award, a competitor must be entering a Taxidermy Art Show Competition for the first time ever. By definition, a competitor is eligible for the Horizon Award only once.

The Horizon Award competitors, whose competition entries receive the highest scores from the competition judges of the Open/Professional, Novice and Junior classes of competition, will receive the Horizon Award.

"Jim Barrango Memorial Award"

The Jim Barrango Memorial Award was established by the CAT administrative board in 2002. This award honors the memory of long time CAT member and supporter Jim Barrango. Jim and his wife were charter members of CAT's parent organization. Jim & Jeanne were members from 1989 until his passing in 2002.

Jim was a faithful attendee of the annual CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition. Jim's taxidermy skills were specialized in mounting upland game birds and other birds. He was especially fond of mounting peacocks with which he won blue ribbons. Jim was only one blue ribbon away from receiving a Masters in birds.

Jim was also generous with his skills as a photographer. He faithfully took pictures of Art Show entries and Awards Banquet proceedings. He made copies of pictures available to CAT and its members at no cost.

Selection Criteria

Only taxidermists who purchase the Art Show Package will be eligible to receive the Jim Barrango Memorial Award.

The current CAT administrative board will, by consensus opinion, choose the winner of the Jim Barrango Memorial Award.

When possible, in remembrance of Jim's specialized taxidermy skills, the Jim Barrango Memorial Award will be presented to an upland game bird or other bird.

Jim's taxidermy skills also extended to exotic sheep and wild boar.

"Joe Fowles Memorial Award"

The Joe Fowles Memorial Award was established by the CAT board in 2023. This new belt buckle award has been added in the memory of our past President. After retirement, Joe followed his passion as a horse packer. Following this he got into taxidermy and his new passion was mounting Mule Deer. These two passions combined were the inspiration for this new memorial award.

The design of the belt buckle was taken from a photo of Joe with his horse and team. The award is for the "Highest Scoring Mule Deer in the Professional Division as assigned by the Judges.

"Lauren Johnson Memorial Awards"

Only the competition entries of persons who have purchased the Art Show Package will be eligible to receive the Lauren Johnson Memorial Awards.

Only CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition entries in the standard competition categories of 1 thru 27 are eligible to receive the Lauren Johnson Memorial Awards.

Best of Show ribbons are presented to the most artistically presented Taxidermy Art Show competition entry in each of the five (5) divisions of CAT Art Show Competition categories: Birds, Game Heads, Life Size Mammals, Fish and Reptiles. CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition entries, selected as winners may be in the Masters, Open/Professional, Novice or Junior classes of competition.

Winners are selected by the individual competition judge of each of the five (5) divisions of CAT Taxidermy Art Show Competition categories: Birds, Game Heads, Life Size Mammals, Fish and Reptiles.

Each judge will select the entry that he/she deems is the most artistic representation of the relevant division of categories. The selected entry may not always be the highest scoring entry in its category's division. Each judge will consider the overall presentation of competition entries in selecting a winner.

"Matuska's Competitor's Award"

All entries must have a 1st or 2nd place ribbon with a combined score of 350 points or greater. The highest scoring entry wins. If no one reached a score of 350 points or greater, the award is to be returned to Matuska where it will be readied for next year's competition. We ask that all states notify us of the winner along with a photo.

"McKenzie Supply Taxidermist Choice "Best of Show"

This award if voted on by all taxidermists that are paid CAT members at the show's competition that year. The entry that receives the most votes in each of the four (4) categories of Birds, Life Size Mammals, Game Heads and Fish wins.

"Mounted In Alaska Award"

The Mounted in Alaska Award is sponsored by Doug Robinson of Knight's Taxidermy, Anchorage, AK.

This award is all about the mount that tells the best story. It can be a mount of any species and any size. This competition is wide open for the competitor to tell their best story thru the mount.

"President's Award "Director of the Year" Award"

The President will select the CAT Board Member to receive this award.

"Research Mannikin's "Black Tail" Award"

Selected by the representative from Research Manikkins.

"Safari Club International (SCI) "Exotic Species" Award

Best Representation of an EXOTIC Species as selected by the SCI representative, if not available, by the Judges.

"Second 2 Nature Award"

No criteria available at this time.

"Taxidermist of the Year"

Entry into the Taxidermist of the Year category is available only to taxidermists who purchase the "Art Show Package".

A Taxidermist of the Year competitor must pay the additional Thirty dollar ($30.00) entry fee. A Taxidermist of the Year competitor must have four (4) entries, one in four (4) of the five (5) Standard Competition Category Divisions. One in Birds, One in Game Heads, One in Life Size Mammals and One in either Fish or Reptiles. *Novelty and Interpretive categories are not eligible.

The competitor's entries may be in any combination of the Masters and Open/Professional Classes of competition, as determined by which class he/she is qualified for. The competitor receiving the highest total score for their four entries can qualify as the winner.

In order to qualify as Taxidermist of the Year, at least two of the competitor's four entries must be awarded First Place ribbons.

No Interpretive and Novelty entries will qualify for this award. Justification: As Interpretive and Novelty do not adhere to a strict standard of anatomical accuracy, it is prone to vast inconsistencies in scores from judge to judge.

"Three Hour Challenge"

Competitors must bring all supplies and tools needed to complete their mount, including mounting stand. A work table will be supplied but everything else is up to the competitors. Winners of both the bird and game head 3 hour challenges will be selected by the show judges.

BIRD 3 HR CHALLENGE:

- Birds may be skinned, fleshed, washed and fully dried.
- Feet may be injected and painted.
- Bills/beak may be painted.
- You MAY NOT pre wire birds.
- Eyes MAY NOT be pre-set.

GAMEHEAD 3 HR CHALLENGE

- Skins may be prepped.
- Manikins may be prepped (if using artificial nose or mouth they may be installed prior).
- Antlers may be prepped and installed.
- Eyes MAY NOT be pre-installed.
- Earliners may be fitted prior but not installed. Bondo method is also acceptable but must be done in the contest. Premade ear butts are allowed but CANNOT be pre attached to the manikin.
- All clay work must be done during the contest.

Judges decisions are final. Rules are subject to change. Winners will be announced during the banquet dinner.

"United Taxidermy Association "Artisan Award"

The Artisan Award is chosen by taxidermists - not judges. That's what makes this award so coveted. If you are given an award by other people competing in the same room you are, you know you have put together something truly amazing.

"Van Dykes Most Creative and Original"

Selected by the Judges

"Vice Presidents Award"

The Vice Presidents choice of the "Best Flying Bird".

"Wasco Most Artistic Entry"

In every taxidermy competition, there are extraordinary entries which display a great deal of creativity and artistic appeal. Yet often these pieces, for one reason or another, go unrecognized with awards due to the nature of the rules or score sheets. It is for this reason that we have created the WASCO Award for the Most Artistic entry. Along with this award go a unique acrylic engraved trophy and a merchandise gift certificate.

The guidelines for choosing the winning piece are:

1) Exhibition of Taxidermy
2) Creativity
3) Artistic Merit

It does not matter which company's supplies, manikins or paints are used in the piece.

The winning entry will be chosen by all of the Judges from all taxidermy entries in the competition. All Judges will pick their top choices from the competition according to the criteria listed below. If the Judges wish, they may discuss their choices with each other, pointing out the appeal they fine in their selections. After discussion, all Judges will vote for the single entry to receive the WASCO Award for the Most Artistic Entry.

The judging criteria shall be as follows:

1) **Exhibition of Taxidermy**: The entry should be tastefully display both the subject as well as the taxidermy profession in a favorable light. The taxidermy should be of good competition caliber, without any obvious flaws to the casual observer. The close scrutiny of a judge's flashlight should not be as important as the overall impression of the piece from a normal viewing distance. The main requirement is that the animal portrayed looks "alive" to the viewer.

2) **Creativity:** Artists who try something new or difficult should be rewarded for their efforts. The concept of the piece should not copy previous winner's ideas. Original ideas, successfully executed, should be given high consideration for this award.
3) **Artistic Merit**: The entry should be judged as a three-dimensional art piece, just like a painting or fine sculpture. Basic art concepts, such as composition, color, dynamic impact, contrast, texture, negative and positive space, and general artistic appeal should be carefully considered.

In order to allow the most taxidermists to compete for this award, a winning state entry shall not be allowed to win a second WASCO Award at another state competition. However, a winning state entry will be eligible to win a second WASCO Award at a regional or national competition.

"Wasco Polytranspar Award"

Highest scoring entry using WASCO Polytranspar Paint. Selected by the Judges.

"Western States Team Challenge"

Entry into the Western States Team Challenge category is available only to taxidermists who purchase the Art Show Package.

Each team must have a captain and one (1) to three (3) members. There is a sixty dollar $60.00 entry fee per team. There must be four (4) entries per team, one entry in four (4) of the standard competition category divisions. One in birds, one in game heads, one in life size mammals and one in fish or reptiles.

The team's entries may be in any combination of Masters and Open/Professional classes of competition, as determined by which class each individual team member is qualified for. The team receiving the highest total score for the four (4) entries is the winner. Ribbons are presented to each team member and their names will be engraved on the perpetual Western States Team Challenge Trophy.

The captain of the team is responsible for providing the entry fee, names of all team members, species of animals being entered and their entry numbers to the competition registrar.

No more than two (2) members of the winning team may form a team on consecutive years. No Interpretative or Novelty entry will qualify for the Team Challenge.