

Texas Masters Challenge

Whitetail/Game-head/Mammal are the only competition categories this year.

Plan to attend - there will be something for everyone! This is a live mounting competition. Spectators can watch, ask questions, heckle and/or learn something. Imagine watching ten different seminars going on at the same time with some of the best taxidermists in Texas and the World!

Qualifications to Enter

Due to limited space only the first ten **PAID** competitors will be entered in the Master's Challenge.

To be eligible for this competition you must be a TTAI member, preregistered and paid for the current convention (no later than 2 weeks prior to the convention start date).

You must be competing in the TTAI Masters Division or have competed in the TTAI Masters Division.

The TTAI judges will judge the Master's Challenge competition. **Judge's decision is final**, there will be no protest.

Entry fee is \$50.00. The first-place winner receives a special award and the winner is announced from the TTAI at the Awards Banquet.

The first ten eligible taxidermists to sign up and pay \$50.00 to the TTAI no less than 2 weeks prior to the convention - will be accepted as competitors. Note - no refunds issued on entry fees.

If needed, the Competition Rules Committee will make decisions on any rule infractions, their decision will be final.

Competition Rules

1. Competitors will have 3 hours to finish their mount.
2. Competitor may bring their choice of commercial form/manikin or original sculpture.
- 3. Any alterations to the manikin must be done during the competition.**
4. Manikins can be sanded or ruffed up prior to the competition, to save on time.

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5. Capes/skins can be prepped and repaired prior to the competition.
6. **WT/Game-head/Mammal**
 - a. Noses, lip slots and tear ducts must be done at the competition. At this time competitors can also cut, sand, or add clay for detail to the manikin.
 - b. Nose work must be done during the competition. Competitors may choose to use artificial septums, cast nose pieces or replacement noses. All artificial parts must be made during the competition. Inner noses can also be rebuilt with epoxy or clay.
 - c. Ears can be done with Bondo or ear liners. Ears must be done at the competition. You may pull the cartilages prior to the competition.
 - d. Ear butts must be clay or like material and formed at the competition.
 - e. Antlers or horns may be set and screwed down prior to the competition.
7. **Competitors will have 30 minutes the next morning to go over their mounts before judging. No exceptions!** There will be no score sheets during the judging.
 - a. Judges will not know who mounted the entries.
 - b. Judge's decision will be final!
8. Competitors must place a tarp under their work area and clean up their work area after the morning's final touch-ups and before judging.
9. All rules and guidelines must be followed, or Competitor will be disqualified without a refund of entry fee.
10. Winners are announced at the Award Banquet.

To Enter

1. Make sure your membership is current.
2. Complete your convention registration. Be sure to select and pay for Masters Challenge along with other convention fees.
3. Send a notification email to Katie Johnson at truelife@truelifetaxidermy.org

Please title the email "Master's Challenge" and be sure to put your cell phone number on the email. We will let you know your number on the competitor's list or your wait/alternate list number.

Competitors must then pay \$50.00 entry fee no later than two weeks prior to the convention. Any potential competitor who has not fully paid 2 weeks prior to the convention will lose their place and the next qualified alternate* will take that spot. Katie will contact qualified alternates no later than 1 week prior to the convention start date if a spot becomes open.

*Qualified alternates must have paid for a current membership and all pre-registration fees no later than two (2) weeks prior to the convention. The alternate must pay the Master's Challenge fee, if not already paid, at that time. If there are no qualified alternates the Master's Challenge competition registration will be closed at one week prior to the convention with no further registrations allowed

Note: All competitors are required to sign rules stating they have read and understand all rules.