

Texas Big Game Awards: THE OFFICIAL HUNTING PROGRAM OF TEXAS

What is TBGA?

The TBGA is our statewide hunting recognition program that is a joint effort of the Texas Wildlife Association (TWA) and Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) and the best part is it's free to enter. TBGA was designed to promote big game hunting in Texas and to promote and encourage sound habitat and wildlife management. The program recognizes: 1) The quality of big game animals in Texas; 2) The hunters who harvest these animals; 3) The land managers who produce these animals; 4) The importance of our hunting heritage; and 5) The achievements of young and new hunters.

What animals does TBGA recognize?

The five native big game animals that are recognized by TBGA are: White-tailed Deer, Mule Deer, Pronghorn Antelope, Javelina and Desert Bighorn Sheep.

How do you enter TBGA?

When you harvest an animal that you think will meet the minimum score for the region you are hunting in then you will need to contact one of our certified scorers. We currently have over 1,000 scorers throughout the state who volunteer their time to score these animals and help get them entered into the program. A full list of scorers can be found on the TBGA website, www.TexasBigGameAwards.org. These scorers have our official entry forms that they will fill out and give to you to mail into us.

If you are hunting with a youth under the age of 18 or first time hunter of any age that harvests one of our TBGA recognizable animals then you can download an entry form from our website to fill out and submit. There are no minimum score requirements for our Youth Division and First Harvest categories.

Why enter TBGA?

The information that is submitted on our scoresheets and entry forms is collected and used by TPWD to help ensure we have healthy habitats for our wildlife across the state. By entering TBGA you are playing a part in helping to manage our states wildlife and the habitats that support these animals. Much of Texas (97%) is privately owned so in order to preserve our wildlife habitats across the state we must work together to ensure our hunting heritage continues for generations to come.

How can TTA help TBGA?

Taxidermists in Texas can help to get more entries into TBGA a few different ways. 1-By simply having TBGA flyers around your office for folks to see, 2-Having First Harvest and Youth Division forms available and encouraging these hunters to send in an entry form, 3-Last but not least, a little more time consuming but very appreciated, by becoming an official TBGA scorer and then scoring the animals your clients bring in and encouraging them to enter into TBGA.

More information and complete program rules can be found by visiting our website and of course you are always welcome to contact us with questions you may have anytime. You may contact us via email (kstarr@texas-wildlife.org), phone (210-236-9761) or follow along on our social media outlets Facebook (Texas Big Game Awards) and Instagram ([texasbiggameawards](https://www.instagram.com/texasbiggameawards)).