

2025 SDTA Convention Schedule of Events

Watertown Event Center ~ 1901 9th Ave SW, Watertown, SD 57201 ~ 605-886-6127

When dropping off mounts, please enter through the North Event Center Entrance "G" located on the northeast of Event Center.

COMPETITION PIECES ACCEPTED UNTIL 10:00 am Friday! If there are problems meeting this deadline, contact Derick Wenck at (605) 881-8474.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

- 2:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting at Minervas (inside motel).
- 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Vendor and Competition Room Set-Up, Suppliers may also be set up this evening.
- 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Registration and entries accepted for competition (Glacial Lakes Ballroom).

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

- 8:00 am – 10:00 Registration and entries accepted for competition (Glacial Lakes Ballroom).
All mounts will have a photo taken w/o the taxidermist prior to being placed in the competition area. COMPETITION AREA WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL MEMBERS AT THIS TIME, a setting committee has been formed to set your pieces. ANY ENTRIES ARRIVING AFTER 10:00 AM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR JUDGING.

(8:00 am on Friday until 9:00 am on Saturday – Competition Room is CLOSED to ALL Competitors for Judging).

- 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Vendor Room Open for Business (Whitewood) *Must have name tag to get in. Vendor Room will be CLOSED during all seminars, but will remain open during the auction.*
- 11:00 am - 11:45 Welcome Meeting for Everyone (Heritage Theatre).
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm **Seminar 1** (Heritage Theatre) *Doug Eck* - Art and composition within taxidermy.
- 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm **Seminar 2** (Prairie) *Tyler Erickson* - Fine points of skinning and mounting fish.
- 5:30 pm Judges meet in competition room with board members to go over specialty awards.
- 6:00 pm **Ice Breaker Party and Live Auction** (Cottonwood) cash bar available.
Get the good deals on forms and supplies from your favorite supply companies!

Immediately following the auction — **LIVE MOUNTING - bring a piece to mount during the live mounting session. Have fun!**

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

- 8:00 am - 9:00 am Competition Room Opens (Judging Complete) - "Taxidermist's Choice Award" ballots must be turned in by 10 am.
- 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Vendor Room Open
- 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Competition Room Open to Public - *Mount Critiques can be done at this time without score sheets. Taxidermists may set business cards/signs out (nothing bigger and a postcard 4x6).*
- 9:00 am - 10:00 am **Finish mounts from Live Mounting Session - judges will pick the winner.**
- 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm **Seminar 3** (Prairie) *Wes Mote* - *Form alteration according to individual bone structure of specimen.*
- 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm **Seminar 4** (Prairie) *Lowell Shapely* - *seminar topic coming soon.*
- 4:30 pm All officer election ballots, "People's Choice Award" ballots must be turned in.
- 5:00 pm Competition Room is CLOSED to everyone for Ribbon Setting - viewable after banquet
- 6:30 pm **Social Hour** (Cottonwood) cash bar available.
- 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm **Banquet and Awards Presentation** (Cottonwood) **MUST HAVE MEAL TICKET AT BUFFET LINE.**
Semi-formal dress attire please for camera-friendly purpose (**NO T-SHIRTS/SWEATSHIRTS**).
- 9:30 pm Competition Room Re-Opens to Competitors for ribbon viewing.
Mount critiques to continue with all judges.
Photos for winners with piece will be taken at this time.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am General Membership Meeting and Elections (Heritage Theater) - **Everyone is encouraged to attend.**
- 10:00 am Mount release and the tear down of show room will begin right after the meeting. Thank you!

Tear Down - VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

Thank You EVERYONE For Your Participation, Hope You Have A Safe Drive Home And See You Again Next Year!

2025 SDTA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLE AND FILL OUT IN FULL.

REGISTRANT'S Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Spouse's Name (if attending): _____ Children's Name (under 18, if attending): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Business Website: _____ Check, if interested in volunteering at show.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (Renewal) Single \$40 and Family \$50 - **NEW members (you have NOT been an SDTA member for the past 3 years) can waive this fee for 2025.**

The membership period runs from convention to convention. \$ _____

The annual membership pays for your newsletter costs, email updates, website for the organization and vendor privileges only at convention. You **CANNOT** go to any seminars etc., without paying the convention registration.

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP Single \$500, Two-Person \$750. \$ _____

This covers the cost of your annual memberships for life. You will also receive a jacket from the organization as well as a framed certificate showing that they are a SDTA Lifetime Member.

CONVENTION ENTRY FEES

\$50.00 for 4 mounts/entries (can include commercial) - **PRE-REGISTER DISCOUNT if postmarked or emailed to mmcahoy@gmail.com by March 1, 2025.** \$ _____

\$75.00 for 4 mounts/entries (can include commercial) - at the door, NO EXCEPTIONS. \$ _____

ADDITIONAL MOUNTS # of entries _____ x \$10.00 ea. \$ _____

AWARDS BANQUET TICKET **MUST be pre-registered - NO banquet tickets available at the door. MUST BRING TICKETS TO BUFFET LINE.**

of adult tickets _____ x \$40.00 ea. \$ _____

of child tickets _____ x \$8.00 ea. (ages 10 and under). \$ _____

COMBINED ARTIST CATEGORY # people _____ x \$20.00 per person (unlimited # of taxidermists). \$ _____

BEST ALL AROUND TAXIDERMIST (BAA) \$10.00 entry fee. \$ _____

AVIAN CHALLENGE \$5.00 entry fee - **2025 challenge is any teal species.** \$ _____

SPECIES CHALLENGE \$5.00 entry fee - **2025 challenge is an American alligator.** \$ _____

HABITAT CHALLENGE # of entries _____ \$10.00 ea. \$ _____

ADDITIONAL COMMERCIAL DIVISION - ANY CATEGORY # of entries _____ x \$5.00 ea. \$ _____

CREDIT CARD FEE 3% - I understand that if I choose to pay with my credit card, I will be charged a 3% credit card fee on my total amount due. \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP DATE

CVV#

SIGNATURE

I understand that by pre-registering, my convention packet will be ready for me to pick up at the registration desk when I arrive in Watertown, SD. I understand that once I receive my convention packet, I am totally responsible for all identification badges and tickets for the award banquet, hands on seminars, etc. The identification badges **MUST** be worn at all times. If I am forced to cancel my plans to attend the convention, **I understand that after March 1, 2025 there will be NO REFUNDS ON MEAL TICKETS.**

Enclose your payment (made payable to SDTA) and mail to:
SDTA, 38559 129th Street Aberdeen, SD Email: mmcahoy@gmail.com

I will not be attending the Convention and/or General Business Meeting, but please include the following nominations for position.

President

Vice-President

Secretary/Treasurer

Board Member (2 year term)

Board Member (2 year term)

CLASS	CATEGORY	SPECIES	TYPE	SPECIAL AWARDS WITH PAID ENTRY FEE					Special Awards without fees (requires use of their products)			
				Commercial	Habitat Challenge	Species Challenge	Avian Challenge	Best All Around Taxidermist	Out of State	Painted With Polytranspar Paint	Pro 1 Award	
Amateur, Novice, Professional, Masters, Commercial, Combined Artist, Original Art	Upland Bird, Waterfowl, Turkey, Deerhead, Large Gamehead, Small Gamehead, Large Lifesize Mammal, Small Lifesize Mammal, Fish, Reptiles, Reproduction	Example: Mallard, Deer, Pheasant, Fox, Elk	Wall, Table or Floor									

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

\$500 SDTA Scholarship now available
For more information go to the “scholarship guidelines and application form” link found at:
www.southdakotataxidermistassoc.com