



2025 PA LONGBEARD CLASSIC

INAUGURAL TURKEY COMPETITION

May 2, 2026

Wilds Sunshine Factory - 3480 Route 6, Kane, PA 16735

CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. PARTICIPANTS AND ELIGIBILITY:

The PA Longbeard Classic ("PLC") turkey hunting tournament (the "Contest") is open to anyone who: (i) possess a valid PA State Hunting License with proper Spring Gobbler tags, and willing and able to abide by all other applicable laws, rules, regulations and codes; (ii) registered as one of the first 400 teams for a particular year; (iii) of sound mind and body to able to physically and mentally participate in an active competition of skill. It is the responsibility of the Participant to provide proof of age to the satisfaction of tournament officials, who reserve the right to deny participation to any individual that does not submit adequate proof of age. Any candidate for competition who, in the judgment of the Tournament Director (Taylor McConnell), is unfairly hindering or endangering the safety and well-being of their teammate, themselves or anyone else involved with a PLC sanctioned event may not be eligible to participate. A properly submitted entry form and fees must be received by the PLC tournament administrative team prior to the registration deadline (*See "3. REGISTRATION" for details*).

2. RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Individuals competing in the Contest (each a "Participant" and collectively, the "Participants") shall observe this code of conduct and the applicable rules set forth herein. Participants shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner that will not reflect unfavorably on the Contest, PLC, its participants, officers or representatives, property owners or sponsors. To this end, Participants shall use their best efforts to demonstrate professionalism and integrity in support of the sport of hunting. Any hunter who violates any of the provisions of the Hunter's Code of Conduct may be subject to disqualification from the Contest, forfeiture of tournament

winnings, suspension and/or permanent ban from competing in future PLC or affiliated events, or any combination thereof deemed appropriate by PLC. Each Participant is also subject to, and is fully expected to, follow and abide by all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances and hunting regulations. PLC encourages all hunters successful in harvesting a bird to report their harvest to PA Game Commission (PGC) within 10 days of harvest (per regulations).

3. REGISTRATION:

Registration is available online at "www.wildssonshinefactory.org/longbeardclassic" with payments accepted via credit card upon completion of the registration form. Any and all deposits and pre-payments are **NON-REFUNDABLE** and **NON-TRANSFERABLE** regardless of the date or reason of cancellation.

ADULT - Any adult license holder wishing to participate **MUST** register and pay the \$300 Registration fee in advance online (at link above) by Fri, April 24th at 11:59pm. Late Registrations cost an additional \$100, and will be accepted until Fri, May 1st at 11:59pm. **NO** Day-Of registrations will be accepted. Registration costs \$300 per "Team" (See "5. TEAMS" for details), and includes (2) Meal Tickets, (2) Event Shirts, the chance to win cash payouts with a successful harvest, and (2) FREE entries to win high-value, participant-only door prizes.

YOUTH- Any youth license holder has the option to register for (1) Meal Ticket and (1) FREE entry to win a Youth Only high-value prize. Youth are not required or expected to turn in a bird. However, if a Youth hunter harvests a bird and wants to have it scored, they are more than welcome to bring it to the check station for scoring. Registration must be completed in advance online (at link above) or in-person on the day-of the event (May 2) until 3:30pm.

4. LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM:

As a condition of participation in the PLC Contest, each Participant is required at the time of registration to checkmark in confirmation that they have read, agree to, and understand all rules outlined in this rulebook, and to release liability of PLC.

5. TEAMS:

Each team consists of a maximum of two (2) members. Participants are eligible to register as a single-man team, if they wish, and will still receive 2 meal tickets, 2 Shirts, 2 name entries for prizes.

Two-Man Teams containing YOUTH hunters: Mentored Youth Hunters must be teamed up with a partner at least 21 years of age; Junior Hunters under the age of 16 must be partnered with a partner at least 18 years of age; Junior Hunters that are 16 years of age or older may be on a team with a partner 16 years of age or older.

If a team member wishes to be solely a camera man/caller, he must have all applicable licenses, tags, and permits to participate. If a team member chooses not to participate as a licensed hunter, they may not engage in any activity that would be considered hunting or otherwise require a hunting license and/or permit(s)- including, but not limited to, carrying guns and equipment or calling any wild game.

6. LICENSES, PERMITS, AND GAME TAGS:

All Participant shooters must obtain and possess all pertinent resident or non-resident hunting, licenses, permits, and game tags required by Pennsylvania law. Failure to do so will result in **disqualification** from the Contest and may subject the violating Participant to state and federal fines, penalties or otherwise. PLC, its officers and directors, are not, and will not be held liable or responsible for any Participant team in any way. Each Participant acknowledges and agrees to follow all State and Federal Hunting rules and regulations and agrees to fully indemnify and hold harmless PLC, its officers and directors, for any action, damage, cost or expense, arising out of a Participant's action(s), negligence, intentional misconduct, and/or violation of law.

7. WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT:

Each team is allowed to attempt to harvest an adult male turkey with any weapon deemed legal by the state of Pennsylvania. A Participant is allowed to attempt to harvest an adult male turkey using any hunting decoy that is deemed legal by the state of Pennsylvania. **The use of a drone is absolutely prohibited during the Contest.** Participants are allowed to attempt to harvest an adult male turkey using any hunting blind that is deemed legal by the state of Pennsylvania.

8. TURKEY CALLS AND CALLING:

Participants are allowed to attempt to call a wild turkey during the Contest. The PLC is a contest of skill therefore: (a) any use of digital turkey calls or any pre-recorded nature calls of any kind is prohibited and will lead to disqualification from the Contest; (b) mouth calls, diaphragm calls, box calls, friction calls, gobble calls, owl calls, and crow calls are permitted; (c) any devices or hunting techniques or methods that are illegal in the state of Pennsylvania will be forbidden in the Contest; (d) no dogs or any other types

of living decoys are allowed; (e) The use of reaping turkeys with decoys is strictly prohibited and will lead to disqualification.

9. PERMITTED HUNTING LOCATIONS:

Participants may hunt any legally accessible property within the state of Pennsylvania, such as private lands (participants are suggested to obtain written permission slips with all members of their hunting party listed) or public lands that permit hunting access. Participants may scout at their discretion leading up to the morning of the hunt.

10. HUNTING/SHOOTING:

Participants may begin hunting at legal shooting time on the day of the Contest. In order to qualify for the Contest, each team must have its turkey checked-in for photo with the event banner and scoring at the Check-In Location (Wilds Sonshine Factory, 3480 Route 6, Kane, PA 16735) by 3:30 PM Eastern Standard Time on the day of the Contest (May 2nd). The Contest will officially end at 3:30 PM Eastern Standard Time on the day of the Contest, there will be no exceptions to this rule. Therefore, each Participant needs to set aside enough time to travel safely from the hunt to the Contest Property for turkey check-in. For conservation purposes, juvenile birds (lacking rounded and barred outermost wings feathers, possessing "stepped up" and uneven tail feathers, in combination with spurs less than ½") may be brought in to score, but may not be entered to win the prize pots. However it will count towards the individuals tag. Any birds taken in excess of the maximum daily allotment or total team allotment will lead to disqualification of the particular harvested bird(s) and possible team disqualification. For the avoidance of any doubt, no trapped, road killed, poisoned, pen raised, snared, previously killed birds or any other means that deviates from calling to and shooting a wild turkey will be allowed and participating in such prohibited activity will result in immediate disqualification and a lifetime ban from any future PLC, or its affiliates', events. A turkey shall not be altered or tampered with in any way that would cause an inaccurate measurement or weigh-in. All beards and spurs must be intact and attached to the turkey in order to be measured and scored by PLC Officials. There will be absolutely no shooting across legal, maintained or well-traveled roads. Participants are solely responsible for obtaining permission to hunt the land they will be entering into for the purpose of the Contest. Each Participant understands that failure to obtain complete authorization to enter into and hunt upon such land for purposes of hunting in the Contest may result in trespassing charges, convictions, fines and arrest, all of which the Participant will be solely and fully responsible and liable for.

11. CATEGORIES AND WINNINGS:

ADULT - Cash Payouts will be awarded for 1st through 6th Places to participants who successfully harvest and timely check-in their bird, with the amounts varying based upon the final number of teams participating in the Contest. A Team's single largest scored bird is only eligible to win one "place" prize payout or Speciality Award payouts for Single-Bird "Longest Single Beard", "Longest Single Spur", "Heaviest Bird", and "Smallest Bird (excluding jakes (See "10. HUNTING/ SHOOTING" for details))". A percentage of Entry Fee funds will be retained to cover event costs such as shirts, meals, venue rental, door prizes and more, while the remaining Entry Fee funds will be distributed to participants in the form of cash payouts as follows:

\$300 per Team CASH PAYOUTS Based on # of Teams					
Single- or Double-Man	10 Teams	15 Teams	25 Teams	35 Teams	50 Teams
1st PLACE	\$504.00	\$756.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,764.00	\$2,520.00
2nd PLACE	\$414.00	\$621.00	\$1,035.00	\$1,449.00	\$2,070.00
3rd PLACE	\$288.00	\$432.00	\$720.00	\$1,008.00	\$1,440.00
4th PLACE	\$216.00	\$324.00	\$540.00	\$756.00	\$1,080.00
5th PLACE	\$144.00	\$216.00	\$360.00	\$504.00	\$720.00
6th PLACE	\$90.00	\$135.00	\$225.00	\$315.00	\$450.00
(4) SPECIALTY Awards	\$36.00	\$54.00	\$90.00	\$126.00	\$180.00

**If there are not at least 6 Teams that successfully harvest and check in birds, or if a team is no longer present at the time of the awards, the payouts for unclaimed place(s) payout(s) will be raffled off to remaining teams present at the event regardless of successful harvest.

Each registered team will receive automatic entry to win a variety of high-value door prizes, and **must be present at the awards dinner (May 2nd at 4pm) to win and claim door prize winnings.**

YOUTH - Each registered youth hunter will receive automatic entry to win a Youth Only high-value door prize, and **MUST be present at the awards dinner (May 2nd at 4pm) to win and claim door prize winnings.**

12. TURKEY CHECK-IN AND MEASURE:

All teams must check-in their turkey for weigh-in between 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM Eastern Standard Time on the day of the Contest (Sat, May 3rd) at The Wilds Sonshine Factory 3480 Route 6 Kane, Pa 16735. Failure to timely check-in harvested birds will result in disqualification of the late team(s), and its harvested turkey, from the Contest. The check-in area will be clearly identified. A maximum of two (2) birds per team, harvested and tagged by registered contest participants, are eligible to be checked-in and scored. Per PA game laws, no more than one (1) bird is to be harvested by any participant on a given day. Only the larger scoring bird will be counted towards the team score for the running for the respective class money pot. All turkeys must be brought in whole to determine live weight. Turkeys must have all legal tags attached to each particular bird prior to check in and throughout the entire time that the birds are being held in the possession of the PLC. Harvested turkeys are the sole property, responsibility, and liability of the Participant responsible for harvesting the turkey. Upon completion of scoring, participants are welcome to remove the birds from the premises to process or prep for mounting. PLC will have a refrigerated trailer on-site for prolonged storage of legally tagged and harvested birds at the Participants' own risk. PLC is not responsible for any harvested turkeys being lost, damaged, spoiled, stolen or for anything else that may happen to the harvested turkeys. Any Participant caught transporting an untagged turkey or bringing an untagged turkey without registration onto the Contest Property will automatically be disqualified from Contest and authorities will be notified. Any registered hunter's harvested bird is subject to metal detecting to discourage dishonest practices to skew a higher weight for contest score. All firearms must be unloaded and stowed before entering the Contest Property. **DO NOT TAKE FIREARMS OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE ON THE CONTEST PROPERTY FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN A SANCTIONED PLC WEAPONS INSPECTION. DOING SO WILL RESULT IN TEAM DISQUALIFICATION AND POSSIBLE LEGAL ACTION.**

13. SCORING:

All birds will be weighed and measured (to the smallest 1/16-inch) according to the NWTF scoring system/method:

$$\text{Score} = \text{Weight}(\#) + (\text{Left Spur(s)}(\text{"}) \times 10) + (\text{Right Spur(s)}(\text{"}) \times 10) + (\text{Beard(s)}(\text{"}) \times 2)$$

All measurements are recorded and witnessed by a minimum of two scorers in a private designated scoring area, and any final scoring decisions are made at the judgement of the scorers. Scores will be held until the Awards Ceremony, and after the awards announcement, copies of recorded score sheets may be distributed to present

participants upon request. Weight will be measured in pounds and ounces, with ounces to be converted to decimal form to determine recorded points for weight. Both Left and Right Spurs will be measured along the outside center, from the point at which the spur protrudes from the scaled leg skin to the tip of the spur. If an atypical bird (multiple spurs per leg), measure each spur in the same manner listed above. All spur lengths are to be added together and the combined measurement will be multiplied by 10 to determine recorded points for spurs. The beard will be measured from the center point of the protrusion of the skin to the tip of the longest attached hair. If an atypical bird (multiple beards), measure each beard in the same manner listed above. All beard lengths are to be added together and multiplied by 2 to determine recorded points for the beard score.

Ex) Weight = 18 lbs 8oz = 18.5 points

Spurs = Left (1" + 0.25") + Right (1") = 2.25" total x 10 = 22.5 points

Beard = 7" + 3" = 10" total x 2 = 20 points

TOTAL SCORE = Weight (18.5) + Spurs (22.5) + Beard (20) = 61 Bird Score

14. DISQUALIFICATION:

Each Participant agrees to report to the Tournament Director immediately following any violation or infraction of any Contest rules. Failure to report any known violations, or suggestions to another Participant and or regulator that they violated these rules, may be cause for disqualification. OFFICIAL PROTESTS MUST BE FILED IN WRITING AND ALL PARTIES OF INTEREST WILL BE PROVIDED A COPY. Any action believed to be taken with intent to deceive Contest officials will lead to automatic disqualification of the deceiving team. A Contest committee of a minimum of three (3) judges will settle all disputes and disqualify turkeys or teams and confirm kills and methods of take. All decisions rendered by the Contest committee are final. Each team could be required to submit to a polygraph or voice analysis test and agree to abide by its results; a Participant's failure to do so will result in disqualification of his or her team. All turkeys will be harvested by the Participants in Pennsylvania. Participants will obey and abide by all hunting rules and regulations as set forth by the state of Pennsylvania. Any consequence or disciplinary action brought against a Participant due to failure to adhere to Federal or State Hunting Regulations is solely between the Participant(s) and the legal authorities so controlling. Any ties will be broken in favor of the Participants who checked-in their bird first.

15. LIE DETECTOR TEST:

By signing the PLC official entry form, each Participant agrees to submit to a truth verification test and abide by its conclusion should he or she be accused of any rule violation. The team captains of the 1st through 5th place winners will be subject to this test. The Contest Director or his designee shall be responsible for selecting an independent expert to administer and interpret the results and establishing, in consultation with the expert administrator, the scope of the questions which may be asked during the test. PLC shall determine the location, and time of the test. The Participant shall cooperate in this process in all respects.

16. SAFETY:

PLC officers have the right to delay, shorten or cancel the Contest because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the Participants. The Contest Property and the post-Contest festivities may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather or other factors that may endanger the Participants and other guests. Notwithstanding the foregoing, because Participants may be hunting across Pennsylvania, and conditions for Participants could vary greatly on the day of the Contest, each Participant is responsible for determining its own parameters for what is and is not deemed to be conditions conducive for safe hunting. PLC will use its best efforts to safely and effectively determine and discern inclement weather conditions, however PLC assumes zero risk or liability for accidents as a result of weather or otherwise, because the ultimate judgment call on whether to participate in the Contest falls solely on the Participants. PLC will be held harmless and free from any and all claims from Participants, including but not limited to claims arising from, caused by, or due to adverse or dangerous weather conditions or acts of God. IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY SITUATION, PARTICIPANTS SHOULD CALL 911 FIRST, AND ONCE SAFE PARTICIPANTS SHOULD NOTIFY CONTEST OFFICIALS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

17. SPORTSMANSHIP:

Participants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification. Use of drugs (other than those purchased over-the-counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) or alcohol by any Participant, during the Contest, will not be tolerated and shall be cause for automatic disqualification from this Contest and all future contests held by PLC or its affiliates. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to traveling to

and from hunting properties as well as hunting close to property lines or borders. Any act of a Participant, which reflects unfavorably upon efforts to promote hunting conservation, and sportsmanship, may be reason for disqualification. Although PLC is not required to conduct background checks on its Participants, PLC reserves the right to deny a Participant's entry to the Contest if it is determined by PLC officials that a Participant suffers from a chemical substance addiction, has conviction(s) of a felony or other crimes involving moral turpitude, or some other identifiable history of conduct reflecting unfavorably upon efforts to promote safety, sportsmanship, fair competition and compliance with Contest rules.

18. TAXES:

All Contest winners will be required to complete a W-9 provided by PLC for prizes over \$599. Participants are responsible for all applicable taxes on both cash and merchandise awards. Various states require withholding tax on merchandise be paid upon the awarding of certificates and Participants awarded merchandise certificates in these States are responsible for remitting their tax to PLC. Failure to meet these obligations may result in fines, and/or disqualification from all future PLC events in addition to any applicable state penalties assessed due to a taxation violation.

19. DAY-OF ON-SITE ENTERTAINMENT:

PLC is committed to fostering a community that respects and cherishes the outdoors and the sport of hunting. In furtherance of that commitment, PLC will provide day-of entertainment and festivities for the Participants, their families and invited guests, and the general public, that will include an assortment of conservation organizations, retail vendors and food/beverages for purchase starting at 10:00 AM, as well as live music entertainment from 12:00-3:00 PM. All registered Participants receive (2) meal tickets, which will begin serving at 4:00 PM. There will be limited meal tickets available for purchase to the General Public. Festivities will conclude following the presentation of Contest Awards beginning at 4:45 PM. Parking is free for the event.