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## **Confederation of Hunters Associations of SA**

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# **THE SOUTH AFRICAN MEASURING SYSTEM FOR HUNTING TROPHIES**

AS COMPILED : THE CONFEDERATION OF  
HUNTERS ASSOCIATIONS OF  
SOUTH AFRICA

AS APPROVED BY : ALL THE MEMBER  
ASSOCIATIONS

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## **THE SOUTH AFRICAN MEASURING SYSTEM FOR HUNTING TROPHIES.**

After long consideration and thorough discussion, the Confederation of Hunters Associations of South Africa (CHASA) found sufficient justification to recommend to member associations that a genuine South African measuring system should be developed.

The idea received the whole-hearted support of all member associations. On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1986 a sub-committee was appointed by CHASA with the instructions to submit a memorandum on the methods that should be followed by member associations when measuring trophies.

All aspects concerning such a system were considered with the following guidelines as a basis: It should have a true South African character by meeting all our needs; it should be a straight –forward and easily understood system which eliminates the possibilities of personal interpretations in order to establish the greatest degree of accuracy; there should be continuity in the system so that the accepted format can be adhered to without continuously changing it.

In order to run this system on the highest possible level, measurements will only be taken by properly informed and proved measurers nominated by member associations and approved by CHASA.

This guide has therefore been compiled in straight –forward, understandable and illustrated terms in order to make the system fully understandable to anybody interested in it. It has furthermore been compiled to serve as a reference guide to official measurers and to assist them with their task; viz., to follow a straight – forward and simple system while judging all African species and thereby ensuring the highest level of record keeping.

### **GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION**

1. The measuring of trophies for the purpose of registration is only allowed to be done by official measurers as appointed by CHASA.
2. Official measurers are obliged to undergo the necessary training in order to interpret this measuring system correctly and to be able to identify species and sub-species according to distribution areas as laid down by CHASA.
3. Only those trophies of African species hunted by members of member-associations of CHASA will be considered.
4. Inclusion of trophies in the national record list will be accompanied by a registration fee as laid down by CHASA.

5. In the case where old trophies are measured, the owner of such trophies will be liable for the travelling and accommodation expenses of the official measurer.
6. No drying time is applicable and trophies can therefore be measured for registrations at any time.
7. Those trophies qualifying for the national record list and which will not be entered in any official competition of any of the member associations can only be measured for registration after the competition.
8. Only typical horn formations according to the judgement of CHASA will be accepted.
9. Only the remaining parts of damaged trophies can be measured. No estimation according to the judgement of the measurer will be allowed. Damages should be noted on the score sheet.
10. Member associations will provide the opportunity for trophies measured during the annual competitions, to be registered.
11. Only steel measuring tapes and assized scales are permitted.
12. The exact area form where the trophy originates should be indicated.
13. Only those trophies which is equal or exceed the minimums as laid down by CHASA will qualified for inclusion.
14. Entries should be submitted on the prescribed form only and should be accompanied by the registration fee.
15. The entry of trophies that either equal or exceed the current record (No1 Position) should be accompanied by a good photograph. Such a photograph can be taken of the trophy only, or the trophy together with the hunter.
16. The soft basis on the reedbuck and mountain reedbuck horns will be measured as part of the horn, provided that it is still present.
17. Although it is the objective of CHASA to eventually publish a record book, this should not be seen as a binding factor to do so.

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## **METHOD A**

(General method of measuring)

This measuring method is used for most African species with horns except for those where a special measuring method exists.

### **LENGTH OF HORN**

Measurement is taken all along the front curve of the longest horn, starting at the lowest point on the forehead up to the tip of horn (A-B).

**NB.** Measurement is taken in a straight line along the top of the ridges of these horns with symmetrical ridges such as Waterbuck, Blesbuck, Impala etc. The measuring tape is therefore not pushed into the hollow curves in between the ridges. If the tip of a horn is broken or when it is worn round, the measurement is taken to a point at right angles to the highest part of such a tip. (See illustration D)

### **CIRCUMFERENCE AT BASE**

Measurement is taken at right angles to the axis of the thickest horn, as close as possible to the skull (See illustration).

**NB.** Should the horn leave the skull at a sharp angle, this measurement will therefore not be an elliptical one. Don't necessarily follow the lower edge of the horn.

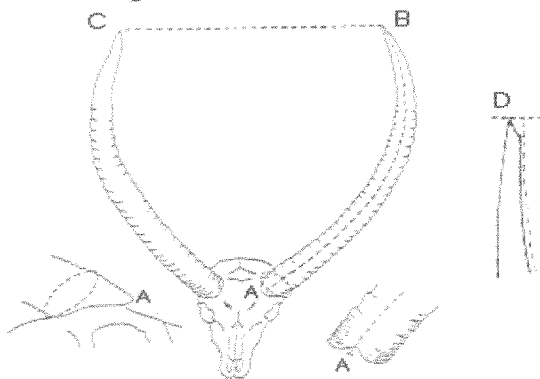
### **TIP TO TIP**

Measurement is taken in a straight line between the tips of the two horns (C-B).

**NB:** Indicate by means of notation should on horn have been broken in such a way that it will affect this measurement.

### **RANKING**

Ranking in the list is determined by the length of the longest horn only. In case of a tie, the thickness of the bases will come into play, thereafter the tip – tip measurement, thereafter the date the trophy was hunted and thereafter the owner in alphabetical order obtained with the oldest one first.



## **METHOD B**

This measuring method is used for the GREATER KUDU, LESER KUDU and the MOUNTAIN NYALA, ELAND, BUSHBUCK AND SITATUNGA AND NYALA.

### **LENGTH OF HORN.**

Measurement is taken from the point that the ridge of the horn forms on the forehead. Follow the ridge all along its highest level up to the point where the ridge fades out and from there in a straight line along the surface of the horn to the tip.

### **CIRCUMFERENCE AT BASE.**

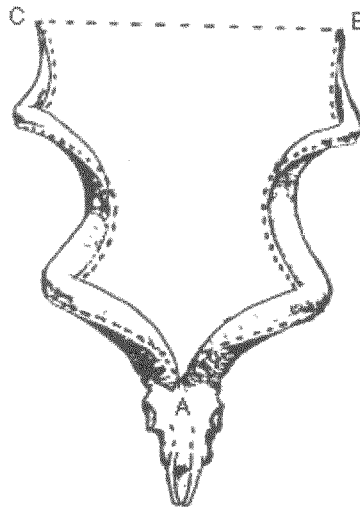
Measurement is taken in the same way as for Method A.

### **TIP TO TIP**

Measurement is taken in the same way as for Method A

### **RANKING**

Same as for Method A.



### METHOD C

This measuring method is used for all Blue wildebeest and Buffalo horns.

#### GREATEST WIDTH OUTSIDE.

Measurement is taken between the widest outer curves of the two horns by using two squares on a flat surface (A-B).

#### LENGTH OF HORN.

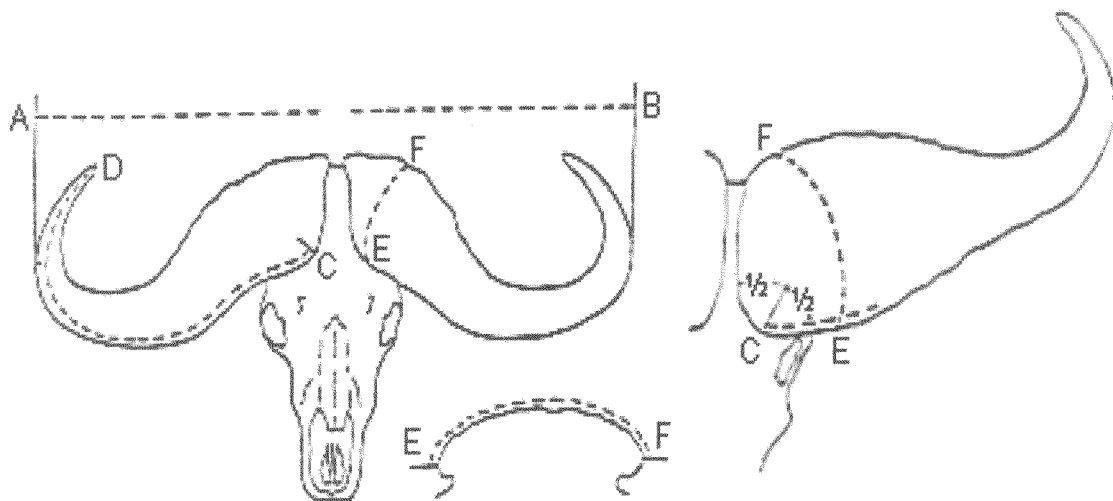
Measurement is taken by starting at a point which is established by splitting the corner in half which the boss forms on the forehead (See illustration), and following along the front curve of the longer horn up to the tip (C-D).

#### WIDTH OF BOSS.

Measurement of the wider boss is taken of the wider boss at its widest point by starting at the furthestmost outer point at the edge of the boss and following over the curve of the boss up to the front edge (See illustration). Measurement is taken at a right angle to the axis of the horn at that point (E-F).

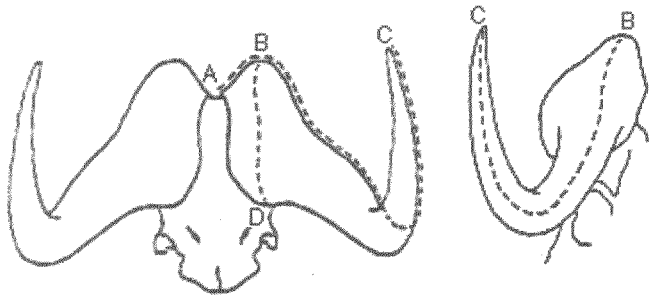
#### RANKING.

Ranking in the list is determined by the outside width or span, followed by other criteria as in method A.



### **METHOD D**

This measuring method is used for the BLACK WILDEBEEST or WHITE-TAILED GNU.



### **LENGTH OF HORN**

Measurements is taken by starting at a point on top of the head where the horn and skin meet and follow a curve over the highest point of the boss and continue all along the outside silhouette of the longer horn up to the tip (A-B-C).

### **WIDTH OF BOSS.**

Measurement is taken from the lowest point at bottom of base over the boss up to the highest on top. (D-B) Measurement is not necessarily taken parallel with axis of skull or in right angles with horn.

### **TIP TO TIP**

Measurement is taken in the same way as for method A.

## METHOD E

This measurement method is used for the Fallow Deer.

### LENGTH OF ANTLERS

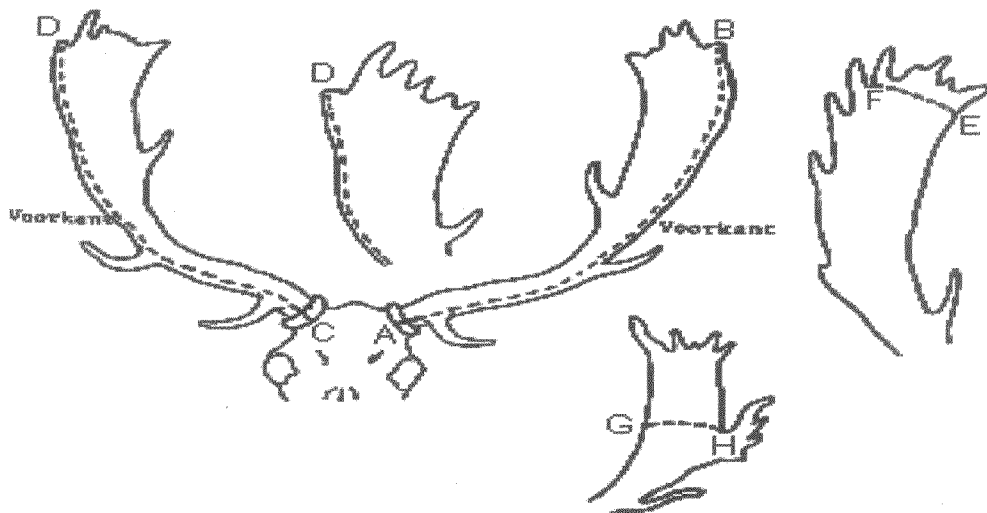
Measurements is taken of both antlers starting on the front where the antler and skull meet at the bottom of the burr, all along the front of each antler up to the front of each antler up to the tops(A-B & C-D) . NB: If a tip should be broken, the measurement is taken up to the point where the break starts on the front curve (see illustration).

### WIDTH OF PALMS

Measurement is taken at the widest point of both palms at right angle to the axis. Start at the front edge and follow the outer cure of the palm up to the rear edge between two points (E-F & G-H).

### RANKING

Ranking in the list is determined by dividing the total obtained by adding the lengths of both antlers and widths of both palms together, by two.





## METHOD F

This measuring method is used for cat skulls

### LENTH OF SKULL

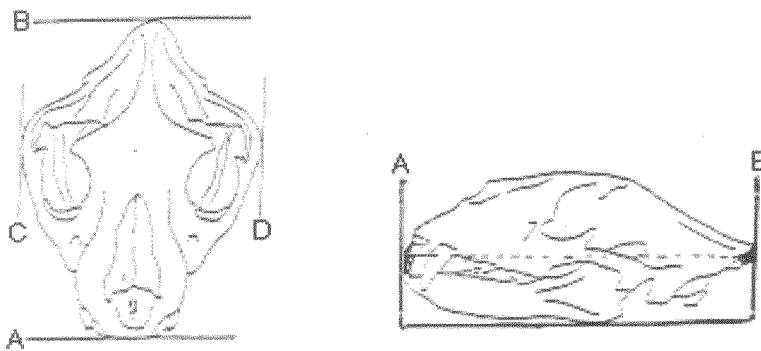
Measurement is taken of the full length of the skull by using two carpenter squares on a smooth surface (A-B).

### WIDTH OF SKULL

Measurement is taken of the widest part of the skull in the same way as for length (C-D) .

### RANKING

Ranking in the list is determined by the total of both measurements.



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## METHOD G

This measuring method is used for elephant tusks.

### WEIGHTY OF EACH TUSK

### LENGTH ON OUTSIDE CURVE OF EACH TUSK

### CIRCUMFERENCE OF EACH TUSK AT BASE OF GUMS

### RANKING

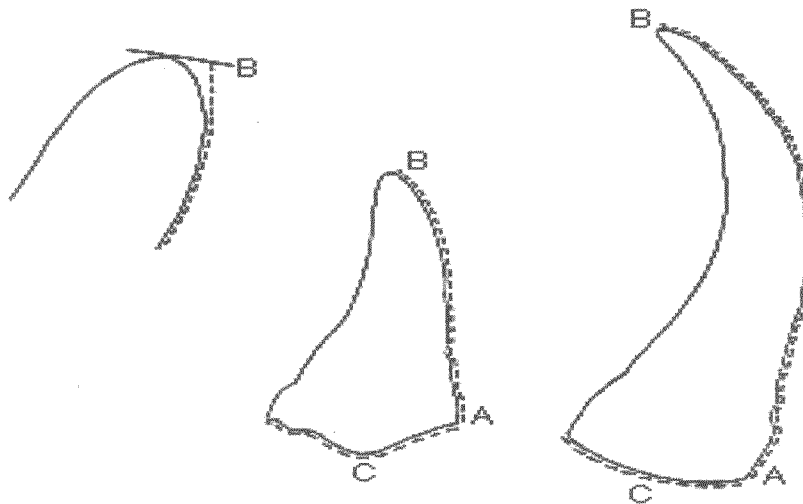
Ranking in the list is determined by the heaviest or only tusk.

## METHOD H

This measuring method is used for RHINOCEROS horns.

### LENTH OF HORNS

Measurement is taken by starting at the base of the font of horns where the skin and the horns meet all along the front curve of both horns up to the tips (A-B).



### CIRCUMFERENCE OF HORNS

Measurement is taken by following the lower edge of horns exactly where the skin joins onto the horns (C). NB: This measurement is therefore not taken in the same way as the circumference measurement for method A.

### RANKING

Ranking in the list is determined by length of front horn only.

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## METHOD I

This measuring method is used for CROCODILES.

### LENGTH OF SKULL

Measurement is taken of the total length of the skull with lower jaw in position (with or without skin on the nose) by using two carpenter squares on a smooth surface.

### WIDTH OF SKULL

Measurement is taken of the widest part of the skull (with or without the skin) in the same way as for the length.

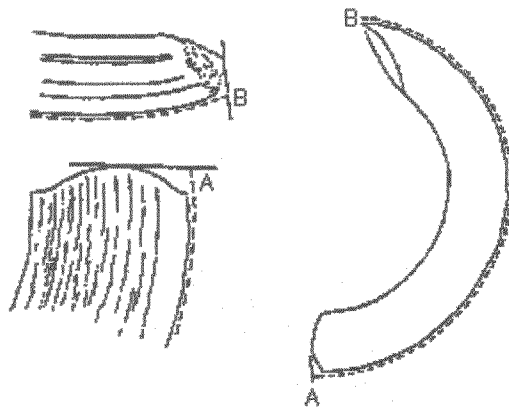
### RANKING

Ranking in the list is determined by the total of both measurements.

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### METHOD J

This measuring method is used for WARTHOGS and GIANT FOREST HOG.



### LENGTH OF TUSK

Measurement is taken along the outside curve of the total length of longest upper tusk (A-B). Start measuring at a point at right angles to the highest point of edge at the base of the tusk (see illustration). The same applies to worn-down or broken tips.

### **LENGTH OF TUSK PROTRUDING THE GUMS**

Measurement is taken from the gums all along the outer curve of the longest upper tusk.

### **RANKING**

Ranking in the list is determined by the length of the longest or only upper tusk.

### **METHOD K**

This measuring method is used for BUSHPIG and hippopotamus.

### **LENGTH OF TUSK**

Measurement is taken along the outer curve of the total length of the longest lower tusk.

### **LENGTH OF TUSK PROTRUDING GUMS.**

Measurement is taken from the gums along the outer curve of the total length of the longest lower tusk up to the tip.

### **RANKING**

Ranking in the list is determined by the length of longest lower tusk.

## SPECIES AND SUB-SPECIES

With this system the Nineteenth Edition of Rowland Ward's Records of Big Game is used as a basis for species, sub-species and their distribution with a few exceptions.

### EXCEPTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

#### SPRINGBUCK (Common and Western)

For the purpose of this system there is no difference between these two. Both sub-species are grouped together as SPRINGBUCK with its distribution the total area of the two.

#### IMPALA (Southern and Black-faced or Angolan.)

The two sub-species will remain subject to the following conditions as far as the Angolan sub-specie is concerned.

- a) The final decision for inclusion in the National list remains with the sub-committee of CHASA.
- b) Together with the entry the following must be submitted:
  - ❖ Clear colour photographs taken of the face of the animal from the front (portrait) as well as from the side (profile).
  - ❖ Full details concerning the date hunted, exact location (name of farm, district and country) as well as the name and address of the owner on whose farm the trophy was taken.

LECHWE (Red& Kafue). A third sub-specie is added to the existing two:

- a) Red Lechwe
- b) Kafue Lechwe
- c) Exotic Red Lechwe with its distribution within the borders of the R.S.A. and Namibia.

#### DEFASSA WATERBUCK (Rhodesian and Angolan)

Only one sub-specie is recognised here viz. Rhodesian Deffasa Waterbuck. The distribution area consists of the total area for both sub-species.

**ROAN ANTELOPE**

(Southern &amp; Angolan)

Only one sub-specie are recognized viz. southern Roan Antelope. The distribution area consists of the total area for both sub-species.

**LIST OF MINIMUM MEASUREMENT.**

Antelope – Sable	40"
Antelope – Southern Roan	26"
Barbary Sheep	26"
Blesbok	16 1/2"
Bongo – Western	25"
Bontebok	14"
Buffalo – North-Western	38"
Buffalo – Southern	40"
Bushbuck – Chobi	12 3/8"
Bushbuck – South African	14 1/2"
Bushpig	6"
Cheetah skull	12 1/2 pts
Crocodile	29 pts
Deer – Barbary Red	24"
Deer- Fallow	53 1/2 pts
Dik-dik – Cordeauxs	2"
Dik-dik – Damaraland	2 3/4"
Dik-dik – Guenthers	2 1/4"
Duiker – Blue	1 3/4"
Duiker – Red	2 1/2"
Duiker – Southern Bush	4 3/4"
Duiker – Yellow-Backed	5"
Eland – Livingston's	28"
Elephant Bull	50 lb
Elephant Cow	12 lb
Gazelle – Northern Grants	23"
Gazelle – Sudan Soemmerring	14"
Gemsbok	40"
Gerenuk – Southern	13"
Grysbuck – Cape	3"
Grysbuck – Sharpe's	1 1/2"
Hartebeest – Cape	23"
Hartebeest – Lewel	22"
Hartebeest – Lichtenstein's	19 1/2"
Hartebeest - Tiang	19"
Hippopotamus	26"
Impala – Angolan (Black-faced)	21"
Impala – Southern	23 1/2"

Klipspringer	4 1/4"
Kob – Uganda	21 1/2"
Kob - Western	20"
Kudu	50"
Kudu – Lesser	26"
Lechwe – Black	21"
Lechwe – Exotic Red	27"
Lechwe – Kafue Red	30"
Lechwe - Red	25"
Leopard Skull	15 pts
Lion Skull	23 pts
Nyala	25"
Nyala – Mountain	28"
Oribi	5 1/2"
Oryx – Beisa	30"
Oryx – Fringed – Eared	32"
Puku	17"
Reedbuck	14"
Reedbuck – Eastern Bohor	10 1/4"
Reedbuck – Mountain	7 1/4"
Rhedbuck – Vaal	7 1/2"
Rhino – Black	20"
Rhino – White	26"
Situtunga – Zambesi	25"
Springbuck	13 1/2"
Steenbok	4 1/2"
Suni-Livingstone	3"
Tsessebe	14 1/2"
Warthog	13 1/2"
Waterbuck – Common	28"
Waterbuck – Rhodesian Defassa	24"
Waterbuck – Sing-sing	28"
Wildebeest – black	25"
Wildebeest – blue	28"
Wildebeest – White-Bearded	28 1/2"
Wildebeest – Nyassaland	25"

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