



2020 BLOND BAY BALLOT HUNT REPORT

As you would all be aware, the 2020 ballot proved to be like no other! The Covid 19 pandemic struck suddenly and affected our opportunities to complete the hunt. As a result, the final three ballot periods on Snake Island had to be cancelled.

The Advisory Group (BBHDAG) has decided that the hunters originally drawn and confirmed in the cancelled periods will be offered the same positions in the 2021 ballot. A hunter from Tasmania, who could not attend Period 4 due to border closures has also been offered a like position this year.

Entries for the 2020 ballot opened on August 1st and a total of 1800 people entered. This was almost 200 entries less than the previous year but was to be expected due to the new strict online entry process.

The highest ballot take continues to come from Snake Island. Feedback from hunters at Blond Bay Reserve and Boole Poole suggests a higher number of animals present at those locations. This is supported by the significantly increased Hog Deer harvest at Blond Bay and Boole Poole.

This unique and in most cases “once in a lifetime opportunity” gives many hunters the only opportunity to hunt free ranging Hog Deer. Hunters meet people from across Australia and overseas and often their hunts create friendships and memories for life. This is the real success of a balloted hunt.

The hunting at Blond Bay resulted in 1 hind and 3 stags harvested.

The hunting on Boole Poole Peninsula resulted in 1 hind harvested.

Snake Island had three less hunting periods than was scheduled. The total take was 19 deer (1 hind and 18 stags). The longest antlers (average 40.5cm) were recorded on a 6.5 year-old stag taken at Cow Swamp on Snake Island. Many of the stags were in the 3.5 - 4.5 year age class and in the low 30 cm antler length range. Seven stags were over 5.5 years of age. **(See attached harvest record)**

Overall, the hunt was again successful and feedback from hunters has been positive and supportive. We were able to work through the ever changing Covid 19 environment, and we made the best of things under very difficult conditions.

There have been amendments to the “**Conditions of Entry**” for the 2021 ballot, so please read them carefully. The main changes are in relation to pandemics and bushfires regarding refunds and hunt transfers etc. The group have decided that should a hunt be cancelled due to reasons outside BBHDAG control, hunters affected will not be offered alternative arrangements.

The last ballot saw some hunters cancelling at very short notice. This has resulted in a few periods without the full complement of hunters. Late cancellations deny others the opportunity to participate in the hunt.

Penalties will apply for hunters that cancel less than 14 days before their hunting period. This may be exclusion from entry for several years. We do not want to see “vacant hunting positions” moving forward.

Entry into the 2021 is **ONLINE ONLY** and opens **August 1st**. No postal entries will be accepted.

Entry into the 2021 ballot is available via the following organisations websites:

- **GMA VICTORIA**
- **SSAA VICTORIA**
- **AUSTRALIAN DEER ASSOCIATION**

Please ensure that all mandatory fields are completed in the online form, including a valid email address.

Simon Webster
Secretary
BBHDAG

2020 Balloted Hog Deer Harvest Record

Tag No.	Sex	Ballot Area	Antlers Measurements					Age	Location	Period
			Left Antler (cm)		Right Antler (cm)		Spread			
			Length	Coronet	Length	Coronet				
M48563	M	Blond Bay	18.5	11	18.5	11.5	17.5	3.5		2
M48561	M	Blond Bay	22.5	11.5	22.5	12	27.5	4.5		2
M48568	M	Blond Bay	23	13	23	13	22.5	3.5		3
F50563	F	Blond Bay						5.5		2
F50573	F	Boole Poole						4.5		2
M48506	M	Snake	42	13.5	37	13.5	28.5	5.5	Rifle Range	1
M48504	M	Snake	38	14	37	14	25	5.5	Cow Swamp	1
M48505	M	Snake	19.5	12	20	11.5	17.5	3.5	Bullock Swamp	1
M48501	M	Snake	26.5	12.5	26.5	13	21	3.5	Rifle Range	1
M48502	M	Snake	16.5	10	16	9.5	13.5	3.5	Bullock Swamp	1
M48507	M	Snake	32.5	15.5	30	15	30	4.5	Big Hole	1
M48511	M	Snake	41	14.5	40	14	30.5	6.5	Cow Swamp	2
M48512	M	Snake	18	11	18.5	11	16	2.5	Long Flat	2
M48513	M	Snake	34.5	13	36	13	22	3.5	Cow Swamp	2
M48520	M	Snake	25.5	12.5	25.5	12.5	19	3.5	Swashway Hut	3
M48522	M	Snake	34.5	14	37	14	20	5.5	Shag Swamp	3
M48521	M	Snake	35.5	14	34	14	23.5	5.5	Big Plain	3
M48519	M	Snake	15.5	10	14.5	9.5	16	2.5	Big Plain Waterhole	3
M48518	M	Snake	20	10.5	20	10.5	15.5	3.5	Cow Swamp	3
M48526	M	Snake	35.5	13.5	36	13.5	22	4.5	Lighthouse Point	4
M48530	M	Snake	33.5	12.5	33.5	12.5	34.5	3.5	Big Hole	4
M48528	M	Snake	35.5	13	36	12.5	18.5	5.5	Rifle Range	4
M48525	M	Snake	31	14.5	29.5	14.5	23.5	6.5	Shag Swamp	4
F50504	F	Snake						1.5	Cow Swamp	1