



CRAIG BIRLE

Deer Drawing 2008

By Jerry Gulke

The Game and Fish Department's bonus point system used to award deer, pronghorn and turkey licenses has been around for 15 years. Nevertheless, questions remain about the drawing, especially from hunters throwing their blaze orange hats into the ring for the first time.

Here's how it works.

If you fail to draw your first license choice, but apply within the next two years, you receive a bonus point. You do not have to apply in the same unit, or for the same deer type, to qualify. You get an additional bonus point each year you apply and do not receive your first license choice, and have applied in the first drawing at least once in the last two years.

You receive additional chances to be drawn for each bonus point accumulated. For points one through three, you are entered in the drawing two times the number of points you have. So, if you have two points you would get four additional chances to be drawn, compared to the person who got his first choice the previous year. If you're both competing for the same license, you have five chances, he or she has one.

When you have collected four or more points, the number of additional chances of being drawn is determined by cubing your bonus points. So, when you have four points, you will be in the drawing 64 additional times, 125 times if you have five points, and so on. Bonus points are accumulated as long as you do not draw your first license choice and apply in the first drawing at least every other year. You do not accumulate bonus points in years you do not apply.

Each drawing is still random, but the more bonus points you have, the better your odds. When you receive your first license choice, you lose your bonus points and start over. Bonus points can only be earned, or used, in the first drawing for each species in each year.

The license lottery consists of four separate drawings, one for each choice on the application. First, we hold a drawing for the first unit/first deer choice. When those have been issued, we draw for the first unit/second deer choice, then the second unit/first deer choice, and finally the second unit/second deer choice.

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Party Applications

If you apply in a party, the number of bonus points you have is equal to the party member with the lowest number of bonus points. You do not lose your points; you just can't use them when applying in a party with someone who has fewer points. If you are not successful in drawing your first license choice, you retain all your points the following year.

A party application has only one chance to be drawn regardless of the number of applicants in the party. However, when a party is drawn, all members get a license. So, if you and I apply in a party for buck licenses in unit 3A4 as our first unit/first choice, and you apply for a doe license as your first unit/second choice, but I do not and we don't get our first choice, you will not get your second choice even though there were doe licenses available. The reason is: I did not have a second choice, so all party members could not be issued a license, therefore no one in the party gets one. Hunters may want to consider applying individually in a situation like this, or apply in parties where everyone has a similar set of choices.

Young Hunters

Youth licenses, which allow harvest of mule deer bucks, were limited to 10 percent of the mule deer buck licenses available in the general lottery in 2008, in units 4A-4F, 3B1 and 3B2. Those who draw one of these licenses must hunt in the unit printed on the license.

Youth applicants who did not receive a mule deer buck license were issued a regular youth license. Youth applicants who did not receive their first choice in 2008 will have a bonus point when they apply in 2009. These licenses have no effect on the other license types and applicants cannot apply for them again.

2008 Lottery Results

- 149,400 deer licenses available, up from 148,550 in 2007.
- 3,450 mule deer buck licenses available, up from 3,400 in 2007. Hunters who applied for buck licenses increased from 9,769 in 2007 to 9,805 in 2008.
- 77,383 people applied for deer licenses (not including gratis, nonresident, youth or muzzleloader), down from 78,186 in 2007.
- 70,131 people applied for buck licenses as their first choice, but less than half of the licenses available, 53,600, were buck licenses.
- With few exceptions, all buck licenses were issued in the first unit/first choice drawing.
- Applicants could have had as many as 15 bonus points, but the highest number of points in the 2008 drawing was 11. This was a little unexpected as the highest number of points the previous year was 10. There must have been someone with a lot of points on a party application, or who chose to sit out last year.
- 1,770 applicants had four or more bonus points, and 1,539 (87 percent) drew their first license choice.
- Applicants who applied for a mule deer buck license accounted for 38 percent of applicants with four or more bonus points. Those who applied for a muzzleloader buck accounted for an additional 53 percent.
- A muzzleloader buck license was the most difficult to draw, with more than seven times more applicants than licenses. An any-buck license in Unit 3C was second, with more than six times as many applicants as licenses.
- The number of pronghorn licenses available in 2008 decreased significantly, but most of the decrease was for doe licenses. In 2007, 10,328 applicants applied for 6,095 licenses as compared to 10,159 applicants and 4,630 licenses in 2008. People could have more than one pronghorn doe license in a few units.
- 7,300 spring turkey licenses were available in 2008, while 6,935 were available in 2007. The number of applicants in 2008 increased from 8,138 to 8,702.
- The number of fall turkey licenses increased from 8,025 in 2007 to 8,705 in 2008.



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2008 Deer Lottery Results

Percent of applicants who received their first choice of license in the 2008 deer drawing.

POINTS											POINTS											
LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL	LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL	
1 A Any Buck	95.9	100	100	100						96.2	3C B Any Doe	85.2	100	100								88.2
1 B Any Doe	98.8	100								98.9	3C C WT Buck	64.9	92.9	100	100							73.7
2A A Any Buck	24	49.6	70.1	88.9						36.7	3C D WT Doe	96.4	88.9	100								95.9
2A B Any Doe	79.9	87.9								81	3D1 A Any Buck	25.4	58.8	68.3	88.9	100						42.4
2B A Any Buck	83.7	99.7	100	100						85.9	3D1 B Any Doe	93.6	100	100								94.1
2B B Any Doe	99	100								99	3D 1C WT Buck	98.9	100	100	100							99.1
2C A Any Buck	71.8	97.6	99.1	100	100					79.2	3D1 D WT Doe	100										100
2C B Any Doe	98.9	100	100							99	3D2 A Any Buck	8.7	33.9	44.6	55.8	100	100			100		31.4
2D A Any Buck	92.5	100	100	100						93.1	3D2 B Any Doe	95.1	100	100	100							95.7
2D B Any Doe	100									100	3D2 C WT Buck	56.5	97.9	100	80	100						72.5
2E A Any Buck	55.8	91.4	98.2	100	100					66.7	3D2 D WT Doe	100										100
2E B Any Doe	96.2	100	100							96.4	3E1A Any Buck	16.4	36.1	46.8	72.7	100	100					32.2
2F1 A Any Buck	100	100	100	100						100	3E1B Any Doe	98.6	100	100	100							98.8
2F1 B Any Doe	100	100								100	3E1 C WT Buck	76.6	98.2	95	100	100						83.9
2F2 A Any Buck	44.2	77.9	93.7	100						56.8	3E1 D WT Doe	100	100									100
2F2 B Any Doe	97.6	100	100	100						97.8	3E2 A Any Buck	11.9	29.4	50	55.9	100	100	100	100	100		28
2G A Any Buck	84.6	100	100							87.1	3E2 B Any Doe	95.1	100	100								95.8
2G B Any Doe	97.8	100								97.9	3E2 C WT Buck	98.2	100	100	100	100						98.6
2G1 A Any Buck	72.6	97.4	100	100						78	3E2 D WT Doe	100	100		100							100
2G1 B Any Doe	98.6	100	100							98.7	3F1 A Any Buck	8.9	33.1	45.9	42.6	100						27.8
2G2 A Any Buck	72.3	96.2	91.7	100	100					74.8	3F1 B Any Doe	97.2	100	100								97.7
2G2 B Any Doe	99.7	100								99.7	3F1 C WT Buck	100	100	100								100
2H A Any Buck	45.4	80.4	94.6	100						58.2	3F1D WT Doe	100										100
2H B Any Doe	98.5	100								98.6	3F2A Any Buck	5.8	16.7	25.8	29.9	100						19
2I A Any Buck	40.7	81.6	97.3	100	100	100				56.6	3F2 B Any Doe	94.5	100	100	100							95.3
2I B Any Doe	97.2	100	100							97.4	3F2 C WT Buck	99.6	96.2	100	100							99.3
2J1 A Any Buck	9.4	29.2	48.7	52.7	100	100				28.7	3F2 D WT Doe	100	100									100
2J1 B Any Doe	95.7	85.7	100	100						94.8	4A C WT Buck	24.2	51.3	51	81.3	100						38.2
2J2 A Any Buck	80.1	99.1	100	100	100					83.5	4A D WT Doe	94.4	100									94.7
2J2 B Any Doe	99.4	100								99.4	4A E MD BUCK	9.2	0.4	35.6	43	98.1	100	100	100	100		20.9
2K1 A Any Buck	13.8	35.7	55.3	78.7	100					31.9	4A F MD Doe	100	100	0	100	100						92.9
2K1 B Any Doe	96.6	84.6	100							95.9	4A I Youth	100										100
2K2 A Any Buck	42.7	80.5	93.2	96.7	90	100				59.7	4B C WT Buck	57.5	97.1	100	100							65.8
2K2 B Any Doe	94.7	100	100	100						95.3	4B D WT Doe	100										100
2L A Any Buck	100	100	100							100	4B E MD BUCK	7.1	0.2	32.3	39.2	99.2	100	100				19
2L B Any Doe	100									100	4B F MD Doe	94.2	100	100	100	100						94.7
3A1 A Any Buck	44.1	85	92.8	100	100					58.8	4B I Youth	98.5	100									98.5
3A1 B Any Doe	97.3	100	100							97.5	4C C WT Buck	94.8	91.7	100	0							93.5
3A2 A Any Buck	43.4	82.5	97.4	100						57	4C D WT Doe	100										100
3A2 B Any Doe	99	100	100							99.1	4C E MD BUCK	3.7	8.2	14.5	21.4	88.4	95.8	100	100	100		18.6
3A3 A Any Buck	16.8	36.3	57	58.3	100			100		31.3	4C F MD Doe	97.5	100	100	0							96.6
3A3 B Any Doe	97.2	87	100	100						96.3	4C I Youth	71.4										71.4
3A4 A Any Buck	52.2	89.2	98.8	100						63.7	4D C WT Buck	98.9	87.5	50	100							97
3A4 B Any Doe	96.5	94.1								96.3	4D D WT Doe	100	100									100
3B1 C WT Buck	16.3	45.7	60	78	100					33.2	4D E MD BUCK	11.2	25.9	40.8	48.8	100	100	100				27
3B1 D WT Doe	93.9	100								95.2	4D F MD Doe	100	66.7	50	100	100						96.5
3B1 E MD BUCK	32.9	73.5	89.2	100	100					50.9	4D I Youth	100										100
3B1 F MD Doe	97.6	100								97.8	4E C WT Buck	95.2	100	100	100							96.4
3B1 I Youth	100									100	4E D WT Doe	100										100
3B2 C WT Buck	21.2	51.3	69	83.3	100		100			37.2	4E E MD BUCK	22.3	55.4	72.5	90.9	100						41.9
3B2 D WT Doe	97.7	83.3								96	4E F MD Doe	100	100	100								100
3B2 E MD BUCK	33.7	80	96.4	100	100	100				54.2	4E I Youth	100										100
3B2 F MD Doe	100	100								100	4F C WT Buck	99.2	100		100	100						99.2
3B2 I Youth	100	100								100	4F D WT Doe	100										100
3B3 A Any Buck	8	20.5	31.2	38.1	100	100				20.8	4F E MD BUCK	57.7	97.1	100		100						69.2
3B3 B Any Doe	94.7	100	100	100						95.4	4F F MD Doe	100	100									100
3B3 C WT Buck	99.3	97.5	100	100	100					99.1	4F I Youth	90.9										90.9
3B3 D WT Doe	96.8	100		100						97	MUZ Buck	1.8	5.7	10.6	14.1	77.8	87.3					12.7
3C A Any Buck	4.7	15.1	26.4	27.3	94.1	100				14.2	MUZ Doe	100	100	100	100	100	100					100

2008 Pronghorn Lottery Results

Percent of applicants who received their first choice of license in the 2008 pronghorn drawing.

POINTS											POINTS											
LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL	LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL	
01AA Any Pronghorn	1.7	7.4	4.8	5.9	54.7	75.8	83.3	0	100	10.8	04CD Doe/kid	100	100	100							100	
01AD Doe/kid	95	100		100	100					96.2	05AA Any Pronghorn	6	12.6	17.4	33.8	97.1	100				17.9	
01DA Any Pronghorn	1	3.2	4.9	4.1	38.4	61.9	100		100	7.4	05AD Doe/kid	100		100	100						100	
01DD Doe/kid	73.3	0								68.8	06AA Any Pronghorn	4.7	12.2	38.9	33.3	100						20.9
02AA Any Pronghorn	6.9	9.3	25.3	29.3	100	100				18.8	06AD Doe/kid	100	100	100	100						100	
02AD Doe/kid	100	100	100							100	07AA Any Pronghorn	5.9	21.9	36.8	45.8	100	100	100			21.9	
02BA Any Pronghorn	3.8	6.9	19.7	20.4	96.4	100				17.1	07AD Doe/kid	100	100	100							100	
02BD Doe/kid	100									100	08AA Any Pronghorn	4	17.8	33.9	31.4	100					20.2	
03AA Any Pronghorn	5.8	6.9	13	52.6	100					21.9	08AD Doe/kid	100	100								100	
03AD Doe/kid	100									100	09AA Any Pronghorn	7.4	12.5	12.8	40.7	88.9		100			15.3	
03BA Any Pronghorn	0.9	7.2	5.6	3.7	62.3	91.7	100			10.2	09AD Doe/kid	100	100								100	
03BD Doe/kid	92.9	100	100							94.4	09CA Any Pronghorn	1	4.8	12.2	5.1	75	80	100			9	
04AAE Any Prong Early	4.2	12.5	19.8	24.4	95.1	100		100		16.4	09CD Doe/kid	100	100	100	100						100	
04AAL Any Prong Late	26.8	62	84.6	83.3	100	100				51.1	10AA Any Pronghorn	0	8.9	16.7	5.6	89.5	100				12.5	
04ADE Doe/kid Early	96.6	100	100							97.2	10AD Doe/kid	100									100	
04ADL Doe/kid Late	100	100	100							100	11AA Any Pronghorn	3.1	10.3	11	19.6	76.7	100				13.6	
04CA Any Pronghorn	12.1	22.2	55.4	57.6	100					28.2	11AD Doe/kid	94.7	100	100	100						96.3	

2008 Turkey Lottery Results

Percent of applicants who received their first choice of license in the 2008 spring turkey drawing.

Percent of applicants who received their first choice of license in the 2008 fall turkey drawing.

POINTS										
LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL
02 S	84.1	88.2	75							84.2
03 S	48	40.7	100	100						47.8
04 S	100	100								100
06 S	100									100
10 S	98.8	100								98.9
13 S	100	100								100
15 S	100	100								100
17 S	100	100	100							100
18 S	100	100								100
19 S	74.3	95.7								76.8
25 S	72.4	69.4	66.7		0					71.8
27 S	93.1	83.3	100							92.6
30 S	89.6	87								89.5
31 S	100	100								100
34 S	92.6	100								93.1
37 S	28.6	17.4	19	20	16.7					24.3
40 S	66.7	85.7	80							71
41 S	55.7	50	66.7	100						55.5
44 S	100	100								100
45 S	100	100	100							100
47 S	100	100								100
50 S	36.6	40.4	26.9	66.7	0					37.1
51 S	95.3	100	100							95.5
53 S	68	0								66.7
70 S	63.7	64.4	46.2	0						62.9
98 S	79.8	82.2	100							80.4
99 S	100	100		100						100
R S	41.6	41.7	15.8	100	0					40.9

POINTS										
LICENSE TYPE	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	OVERALL
02 F	89.7	100								89.8
03 F	100	100	100							100
04 F	100									100
06 F	100									100
10 F	71	100								72.7
13 F	100	100								100
15 F	100									100
17 F	100	100								100
18 F	100									100
19 F	100									100
25 F	100	100		100						100
27 F	100	100								100
30 F	100									100
31 F	100									100
34 F	100	100								100
37 F	13.1	38	57.1	63.6	100					26.3
40 F	78.9	87.5								79.8
41 F	76.8	100	100							81
44 F	100	100								100
45 F	100									100
47 F	53.1	83.3	100							59
50 F	8	17.9	50	62.5	100					15.8
51 F	100	100								100
70 F	48	86.4	100							53.7
98 F	100	100								100
99 F	100									100
R F	40.2	89	100	100						49.9

Youth Turkey Hunters

First-time spring turkey hunters ages 15 or younger received one spring wild turkey license valid for a specific unit for the regular season in 2008.

To be eligible, the youth hunter had to be 15 or younger on opening day of the spring turkey season, and had never received a spring turkey license in North Dakota. Nearly 400 licenses were issued to young hunters in 2008, the first year this opportunity was available.