

- 7. Prizes:** The R. Matthew Purcell Perpetual Trophy will be awarded to the winning team. To understand the significance of this illustrious trophy, please see below. The winning skipper may purchase at least one pitcher of hummers to be shared by the crew and the race chairman. Other prizes may be made available subject to availability.

The Story of the R. Matthew Purcell Perpetual Trophy, as told by Paul Hulsey:

A few years back a bunch of us were trap shooting just outside the Bayview bar on the River (right before the Christmas Holiday). Matt Purcell was having a really bad day shooting, missing just about every bird. We get back into the bar and sit down for a few drinks and the Purcell looks at me and says "That f***ing deer with the rotating head was distracting me on station five." To which I replied, "You know what you should do - go out there and shoot the damn thing." We all had a few laughs, however, Matt thought I was serious and after everyone left, he walked out, loaded a few shells into his 12 gauge and pumped two rounds into the deer's head. Of course, Matt received a 30-day suspension from the club and had to pay for a new Christmas Deer.

The next day I went down to BYC and took the shot up deer out of the trash and hide it in my garage all winter and summer long. Andy Groh, Geoff Kimmel and myself ended up taking the head off the deer and made the trophy that you see above. For those of you who have not seen the trophy in person - the head still moves and the lights blink - it's quite a sight to behold:

