

# *Sam Neyt*

## *Fine European game calls*

### BELBLATT FOX CALL-ENGLISH MANUAL.

#### *1) Introduction*

De Belblatt is a very effective and very versatile gamecall which features a unique interchangeable reed-system for both roe and fox. This manual is about fox calling with the fox reed on the Belblatt. For roe calling with the roe reed on the Belblatt, please read our other manual.

Belblatt is a fox-caller where one can make a large variety of animal distress sounds in a variable volume, it can be used completely handsfree if desired.

This call has a very steep toneboard and an upwards positioned reed which is unique in this type of caller, it prevents reed-blocking and it ensures a very fast and a very reactive call, able to instantly switch from one distress sound to another.

The only function of the rubbers on the Belblatt are to fix the reed in place on the call, it is not necessary to move the reeds to change the tones.

The Belblatt can be disassembled very quickly for cleaning, slide the rubbers from the call, remove the reed and clean the individual items with water, it is that simple.

#### *2) How to use in general.*

The basics are the same, both with the roe and the fox reed on the Belblatt.

- 1) Take the call into your hand like in the picture, thumb below and index finger on top.



- 2) Push the reed with your upper teeth and/or upper lip onto the tip of the call. The reed should close the tone-channel completely, this is very important.
- 3) Blow very gently and softly on the Belblatt from the throat, not from the mouth, while at the same time, maintaining the pressure on the reed with the upper teeth and/or upper lip. Also this is very important to achieve the correct activation of the reed.

### 3) How to use for fox and other predator calling.

- When roe calling you mostly blow on a specific part of the Belblatt, when fox calling your mouth should move over the reed when blowing to generate animal distress sounds, this is an important difference.
- The higher you blow on the Belblatt the deeper the sound, the lower you blow on the Belblatt the higher the sound will be.
- A hare in distress sound can be made on the top of the Belblatt.
- A rabbit distress sound is situated in the middle of the Belblatt.
- Rodent and bird distress sounds are on the tip of the Belblatt.
- You can use your hand to amplify the distress sound. For a low volume, keep the hand open around the Belblatt. For a high(er) volume close the hand around the Belblatt so the hand functions as a sound-barrel which will increase volume considerably.

- If you want to soften the distress sounds place one or two fingers over the round opening, do not close the round opening completely as this is the part where the sound comes out.
- To make the distress sound a little different you can open and close the hand ( or fingers ) constantly around the Belblatt, you can also “hummm” on the Belblatt to get a special distress effect, please also see our instructional video for this.
- The advantage of Belblatt is that it is a very dynamic fox call, the variety of distress sounds it can make is huge, much more then with any other fox call.
- Do not worry if you use different distress calls in the same calling session, it is in general the “ state of distress “ which will call in a predator and mostly not a specific individual distress sound.
- Start each calling session with a soft distress sound on the tip of the Belblatt and increase volume and change the individual distress call later during the calling session if no predator has been spotted.

#### 4) Handsfree fox calling.

- For a soft hare or rabbit distress sound put you lower teeth behind the protusion below the call and blow the Belblatt as described above.
- For a dynamic rodent or bird distress call place your lower lip just behind the protusion below the call and let the Belblatt balance between your lower lip and upper teeth when you blow.
- Fluttering your tongue will give extra realism to this technique.
- Please also see our instructional video for these specific calls..

#### 5) Other tips and tricks.

- A lot depends on the time of the year and the specific area what the best period is for fox calling. We had the most succes during the early mornings and evenings and in remote areas we also had quite some succes also during the day as well with our fox calling. If allowed, night calling can be very productive, please check your local laws for this.
- Start with soft distress sounds on the top of the Belblatt for 10 or 15 seconds an then wait for 1 and a half or two minutes, often the fox will come in the silent period. If no predator is seen you can systematically increase the volume and switch to another distress sound if required. Stay around 15 up to 25 minutes on a specific spot, depending on the size of the area, the vegetation ( the more vegetation, the more the distress soudns will be absorbed by the vegetation ) and/our the type of cover the area has which often
- You can play with the time indication above, do not try to call constantly or to much as this will draw attention directly to you and the risk that the fox will spot you.
- When calling in the evening or the morning, try to call near the cover where the fox is bedded during the day.
- On the contrary to popular belief, foxes can be called from a high seat.
- When calling in high wind and calling during night time you can use higher volume as usual.
- Always consider the wind, often foxes tend to come in below to wind so they can check with their nose what is happening. Give extra attention to the downwind area, if

the foxes are blocked downwind like with a stream or a public road your chances of not being winded will increase considerably.

- Use the terrain to your advantage, wear camouflage and stay well hidden when calling.

We wish you lots of success with the Belblatt for fox and other predators and are always interested in your experiences with gamecalling in general and especially with our gamecalls. Feel free to reach out at any time, we love hearing from you!

Kind regards and the best of luck,

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*Sam Neyt*