A Comprehensive Study Guide to the Conformation Breed Standard for the

BLUETICK

A presentation by Steve Fielder, AKC Coonhound Events





COONHOUND BREEDS



How IT BEGAN

- Coonhounds were developed from colonial foxhounds
- Coonhounds became the tool of the pioneers and evolved into a popular pastime
- Coonhound field trials became popular at the turn of the 20th
 Century
- Nite Hunts established in1945 and continue today as the most popular coonhound event
- Coonhound Bench Shows were first held in the 1940's at a Labor Day event called Leafy Oak in Kenton, Ohio.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPERTY O



HISTORY

The modern Bluetick Coonhound descended from the Grand Bleu de Gascogne (French Staghound)





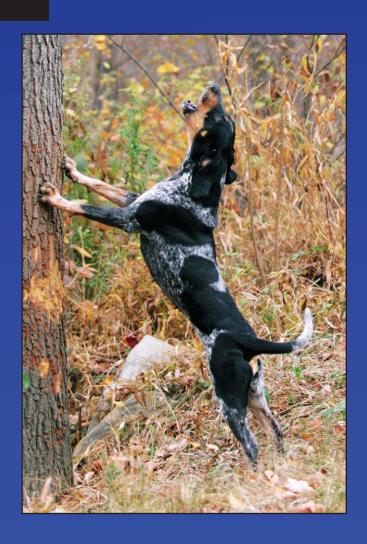
HISTORY



Blueticks were originally classified as English Coonhounds until 1945. Bluetick puppies and redtick puppies were born in the same litters. The blue ones were classified as Blueticks and the redticked ones as English

The Bluetick is a hunter...

- Active, ambitious and speedy on trail
- Free-tonguer on trail
 - •Medium "bawl" or bugle voice when trailing
- •Steady "chop" when running
- •Steady, coarse chop at the tree.





General Appearance

- •Speedy
- •Well-muscled
- Never clumsy or overly chunky built
- Neat, compact body
- •Glossy coat
- Clear, keen eyes
- •Carries head and tail well up when in motion







SIZE



Males

Height: 24 - 27 inches at withers

Weight: 55 - 80 pounds

Disqualification:

Under or Over Height Standard

SIZE

FEMALES

Height: 21 – 25 inches at withers

Weight: 45 – 65 pounds



Disqualification: Under or Over Height Standard

PROPORTION and SUBSTANCE



Square or slightly longer than tall



WEIGHT

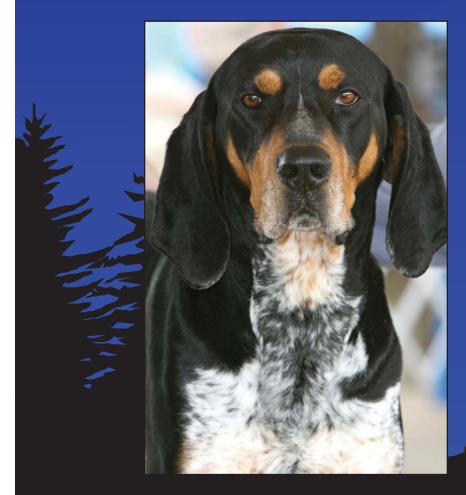
Males – 55 to 80 pounds

Females – 45 to 65

pounds

Head

Broad between ears and slightly domed





Prominent stop

•Length from occiput to end of nose:

Males: 9 – 10 inches

Females: 8 – 9 inches

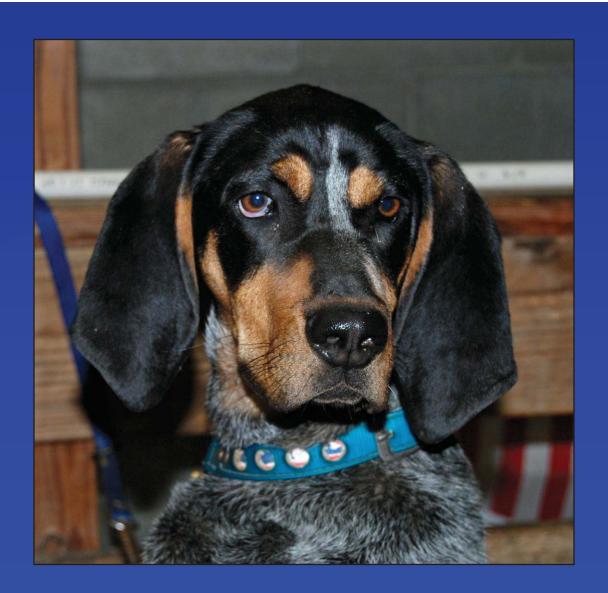
MUZZLE



- •Muzzle long, broad, deep
 - Square in profile
 - •Flews cover line of lower jaw
 - •Depth of foreface $3 4 \frac{1}{2}$ inches

EYES

- •Rather large
- •Set wide
 - RoundDarkBrown



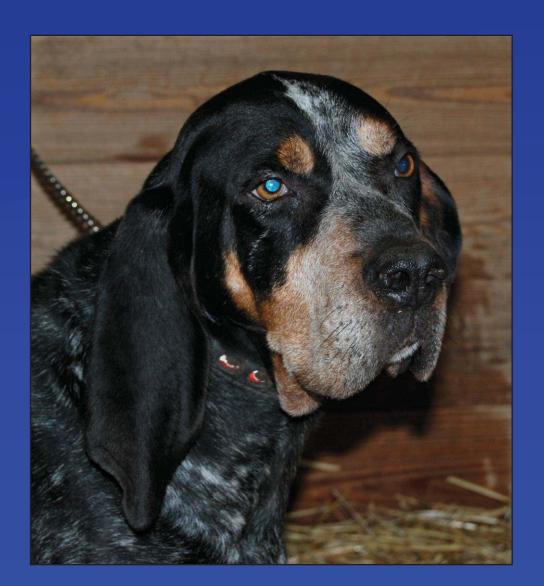
Never lighter than light brown in color

EYES

Eye rims tight and close-fitting



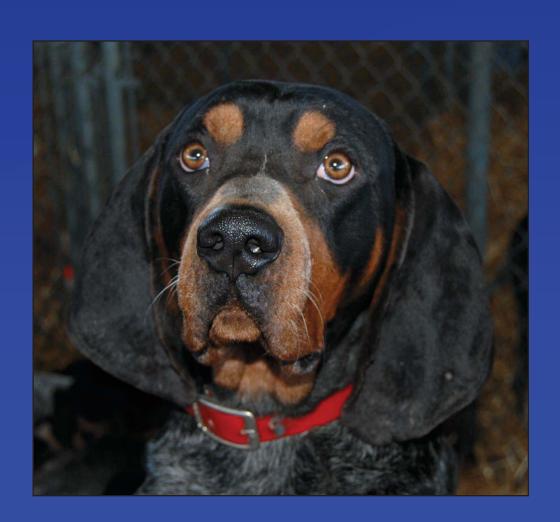
No excess third eyelid apparent



Expression

Typically pleading "hound" expression

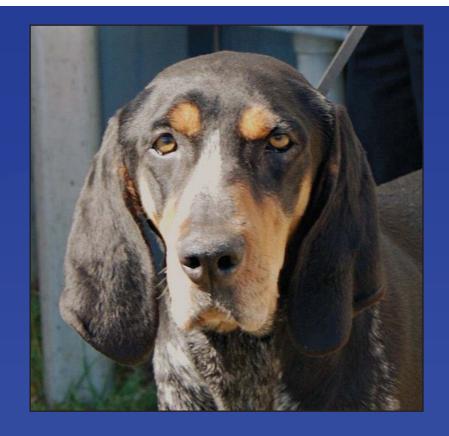
Never wild or cowering



EARS

•SET LOW •NO ERECTILE POWER

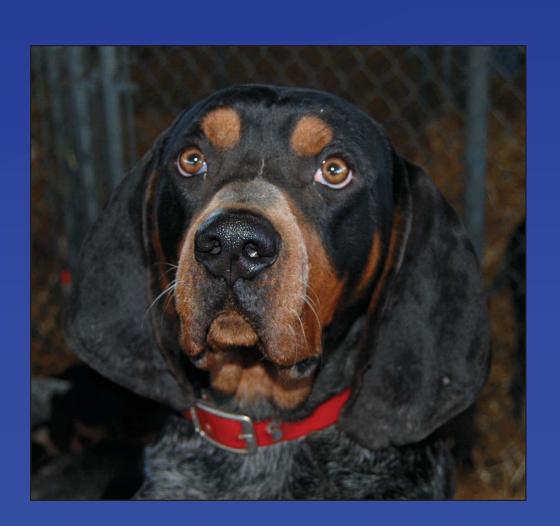




- •Thin with slight roll taper to point
 - •Reach well toward end of nose
 - •Well-attached to head to prevent hanging or backward tilt

Nose

•Large Well-opened nostrils •Fully pigmented •Black



Teeth



Scissors Bite PreferredEven Bite Acceptable

Disqualification: Undershot or Overshot

NECK

TOPLINE

BODY

- Neck muscular
- Moderate length
- Tapering slightly from shoulders to head
- Carried well up
- Not vertical (goose necked)
- Throat clean with slight trace of dewlap



NECK

TOPLINE

BODY

- Body shows considerable depth
- Extends well down toward elbow
 - Deep rather than wide
 - Plenty of lung space



CHEST



CHEST

FEMALES

23 – 30

INCHES



RIBS

LONG
WELL
SPRUNG





TAPERED GRADUALLY TO A MODERATE TUCK-UP

BACK



MUSCULAR

Topline slopes downward slightly from withers to hips



BACK

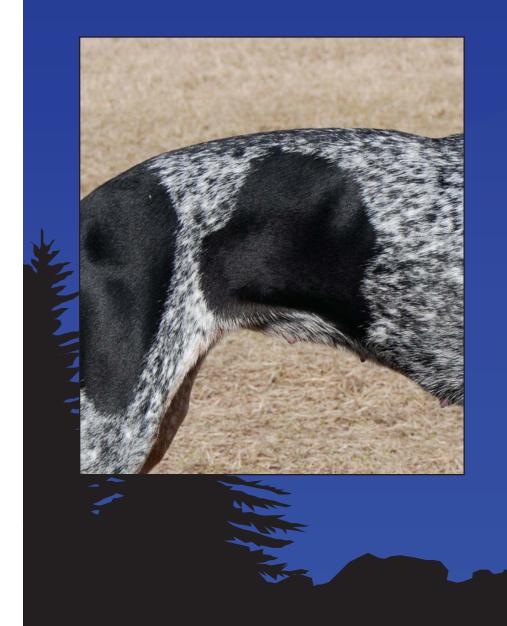


FAULT:
SWAYED BACK





LOIN



- WELL-MUSCLED
 - BROAD
- SLIGHTLY ARCHED



FOREQUARTERS

• LEGS STRAIGHT FROM ELBOWS TO FEET

• WELL-BONED AND MUSCULAR

STRONG, STRAIGHT, SLIGHTLY SLOPING PASTERNS



LEGS

Length of leg from elbow to ground – ½ of height at withers

Legs

 appear
 straight

 from side

 or front
 view



SHOULDERS



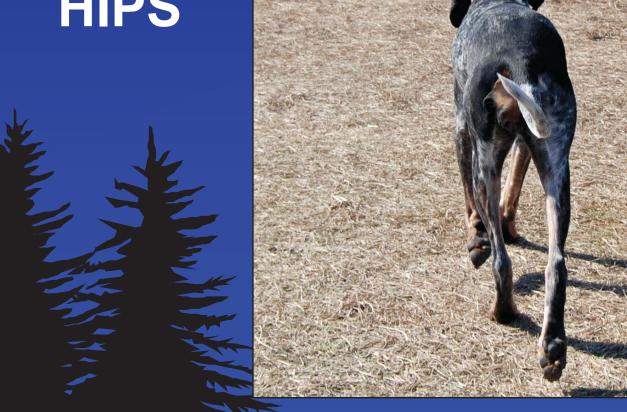
NOT TOO BROAD OR ROUGH

APPEARANCE OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND STRENGTH



HINDQUARTERS

HIPS

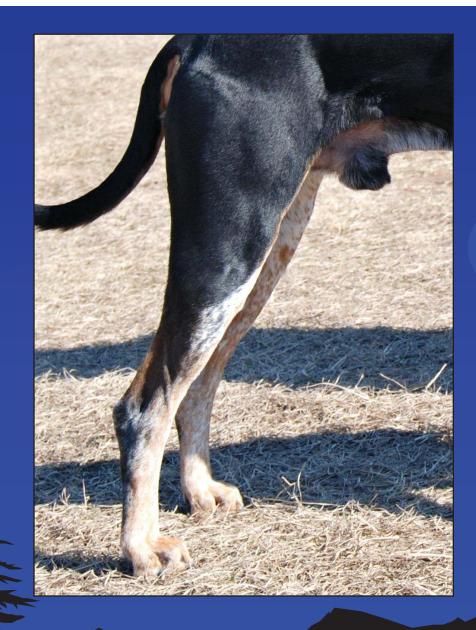


STRONG WELL-**MUSCLED NOT QUITE AS WIDE AS**

RIBCAGE

THIGHS

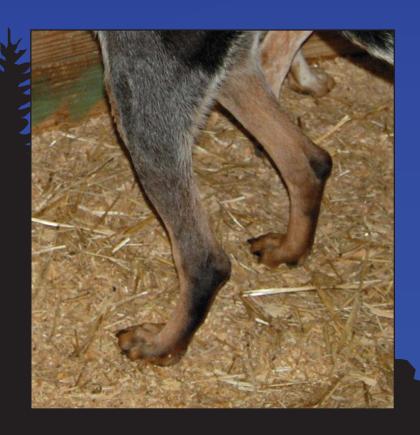
MUSCULAR
ABUNDANCE
OF
PROPELLING
POWER



FULL AND STRONG DOWN TO HOCK

HOCKS

STRONG, MODERATELY BENT





FAULT: EXCESSIVELY BENT AT HOCK JOINTS

HOCKS

DEW CLAWS REMOVED





REAR LEGS

Parallel from hip to foot when viewed from behind

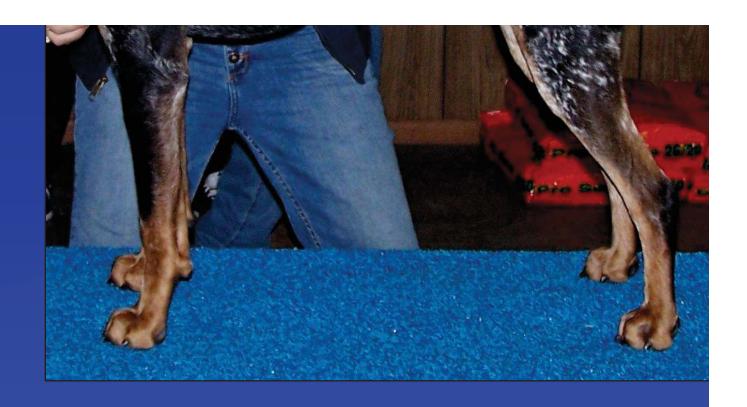


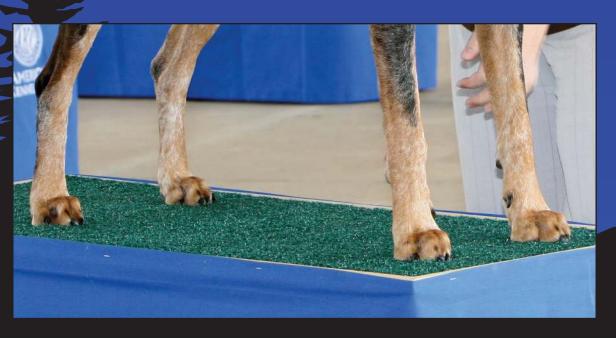


NO COWHOCKS FEET

ROUND (CAT LIKE)

WELL-ARCHED TOES





THICK, TOUGH PADS



TAIL

• SET
SLIGHTLY
BELOW
LINE OF
BACK

FAULT:

FLAG TAIL



- •STRONGLY ROOTED
- •TAPERING TO MODERATE LENGTH (in balance with to overall length of hound)
 - CARRIEDHIGH
- •HALF MOON
 CURVE
 - •WELL-COATED

COAT

MEDIUM COARSE

LYING CLOSE TO BODY

SMOOTH & GLOSSY



FAULT – ROUGH OR TOO SHORT

COLOR



- Dark blue preferred
 - Thickly mottled
- Various black spots on back, ears, sides
- •More blue than black preferred
- Head and Earspredominately black
- •With or without tan markings on cheeks, over eyes, below tail
- Red ticking on feet and lower legs
 - More blueticking than white in coat

Disqualification: Albinism

COLOR



FULLY BLUE
MOTTLED BODY
PREFERRED OVER LIGHT
TICKING ON THE BODY

MORE BLUETICKING
THAN WHITE IN THE
BODY COAT



DISQUALIFICATION: ANY OTHER COLOR THAN DESCRIBED IN STANDARD

GAIT





ACTIVE AND VIGOROUS

TOPLINE CARRIED FIRMLY



HEAD AND TAIL
WELL UP

Resources

American Bluetick Hound Association

Jerry Turbeville

Home: 843-423-2586

Work cell: 843-229-7455

Personal cell: 843-230-4444

American Kennel Club
Coonhound Events Department

Phone: 1-888-436-4486

Email: coonhounds@akc.org

www.akccoonhounds.org



