ENGLISH COONHOUND JUDGES SEMINAR

Courtesy of the American English Coonhound Association
Learning Objectives

- History of the English Coonhound
- Purpose of the English Coonhound
- Head to Tail anatomical study of the English Coonhound
- Understanding/Application of breed standard
History of the English Coonhound

- Descendants of the English Foxhounds, known in the New World as the Virginia hounds
- History of the English Coonhound is almost the history of ALL coonhounds
- First registered by UKC in 1903 as the English Fox & Coonhound
- First major Field Trail was won by an English Coonhound
History of English Coonhound

- Color didn’t matter
- By 1943 the breed produced four base colors
  - White- with any hound color
  - Blue- bluetick
    - Separated in 1946
  - Tri- walker
    - Separated in 1945
  - Red- redticked
Purpose of the English Coonhound

- Originally intended to run fox by day, raccoon by night
- Scent hound used to strike, trail and tree or bay desired game
- First & foremost a hunting dog
- Competitive in Nite Hunts
Nite Hunts

- Striking, Trailing and Treeing Raccoons
  - Striking- opening upon scent of intended game
  - Trailing- following the scent and forcing game to take refuge
  - Treeing- baying game in its’ place of refuge
- 1-2 hours in length
- Most points win
- Fast, athletic hounds with the ability to locate, put direction to tracks and tree with great accuracy, on a consistent basis, win
The English Coonhound

- Renowned for speed and endurance
- Strong body with a hint of raciness
- Deep chest with plenty of lung capacity
- Strong back, broad loin and well-defined musculature
- Balanced with no exaggerated parts
- Graceful & athletic
General Appearance
Head Assembly

- **Skull**
  - Broad
  - Moderate length

- **Muzzle**
  - Full, proportionate to skull
  - Flews cover lower jaw from side
  - Nose is black
  - Scissor bite

- **Ears**
  - Rather low
  - Reach the nose tip

- **Eyes**
  - Dark brown
  - Set wide apart
  - Almond shape to just off-round
Head cont’d
Head review

- **Skull**
  - Broad
  - Moderate length

- **Muzzle**
  - Full, proportionate to skull
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English Coonhound body

- **Neck**
  - Muscular
  - Slightly tapered

- **Topline**
  - Slightly higher at withers than hips

- **Chest**
  - Considerable depth (rather than excessive width)
  - Ribs well-sprung

- **Underline/tuck-up**
  - Tight & smooth

- **Back**
  - Muscular

- **Loin**
  - Broad & well muscled

- **Tail**
  - Set high
  - Medium length/ slight brush
Body cont’d
Body cont’d
Body review

- **Neck**
  - Muscular
  - Slightly tapered

- **Topline**
  - Slightly higher at withers than hips

- **Chest**
  - Considerable depth (rather than excessive width)
  - Ribs well-sprung

- **Underline/tuck-up**
  - Tight & smooth

- **Back**
  - Muscular

- **Loin**
  - Broad & well muscled

- **Tail**
  - Set high
  - Medium length/slight brush
- Shoulders/Angulation
  - Clean, muscular & balanced
  - Gradually sloping
- Forelegs
  - Straight, well boned
  - Muscular
- Pastern
  - Strong & Straight
- Feet
  - Well padded, cat-like
Forequarters cont’d
Pasterns
Forequarters review

- Angulation
  - Good lay back of shoulder
- Forelegs
  - Straight/strong
- Pasterns
  - Straight
- Feet
  - Cat-like
Hindquarters

- **Angulation**
  - Hocks slightly bent
  - Moderate turn of stifle

- **Legs**
  - Strong & Straight
    - (when viewed from rear)
Hindquarters cont’d
Hindquarters cont’d
Hindquarters cont’d
Hindquarters review

- Sufficient angulation
- Strong
- Straight/sound
Coat

- Hard
- Protective
- Medium length
Color

- Least important aspect
  - Red & White ticked
  - Blue & White ticked
  - Tri-colored w/ ticking
  - White & Red
  - White & Black
Color cont’d
Color review

- Wide variety

- Disqualifications for color
  - Any Brindle color
  - Tri-color with NO ticking
  - Solid color with less than 10% ticking
Gait

- Effortless
- Tail moving side to side
- Head up and alert
Critique
Critique
Critique
Critique
Questions???
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