



# OFFICIAL COONHOUND RULEBOOK

---

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020



# Table Of Contents

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Schedule of Fees .....	4
Inherent Rights & Powers of UKC .....	4
Sending Work to UKC .....	5

## EVENT INFORMATION

Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events .....	6
UKC Easy Entry™ Card .....	7
Titles of Excellence from UKC and Requirements to Earn Them ...	7
Upcoming UKC Licensed Events .....	10
Awards at UKC Licensed Events .....	11
Club Officers Guidelines for Conducting UKC Events .....	12
UKC Policy for Benefit Events .....	16
Scratched for Fighting - UKC Policy .....	76
Misconduct & Discipline .....	90

## OFFICIAL UKC BREED STANDARDS

American Black & Tan Coonhound .....	17
American Leopard Hound .....	20
Bluetick Coonhound .....	25
English Coonhound .....	29
Plott Hound .....	32
Redbone Coonhound .....	35
Treeing Walker Coonhound .....	38
Relative Importance of Body Parts For All Coonhound Breeds .....	42
Height Standard For All Breeds .....	42

## BENCH SHOWS

UKC Coonhound Bench Show Rules .....	43
UKC Coonhound Bench Show Judges Authority and Responsibilities .....	45
Show Spectators, Owners and Handlers .....	46
UKC Coonhound Bench Show Procedures .....	46
Requirements and Procedures for Becoming a UKC Licensed Bench Show Judge .....	47
UKC Point System for the Top Ten Bench Show Dogs .....	48

## NITE HUNTS

Official Nite Hunt Honor Rules (Effective January 1, 2020) .....	50
Panel and Appeal Procedure for Situations Happening During a UKC Licensed Nite Hunt .....	58
Hunting/Non-Hunting Judges Clarification .....	60
Veterans Casts .....	61
Important Announcement Concerning the Use of Hearing Devices in UKC Licensed Nite Hunts .....	62
Cast Breakdown Information .....	62
Master of Hounds (MOH)/Hunt Director (HD) Guidelines .....	63
Master of Hounds Requirements for Licensing .....	67

## FIELD TRIALS

UKC Licensed Field Trial Rules .....	67
--------------------------------------	----

## WATER RACES

UKC Licensed Water Race Rules .....	72
-------------------------------------	----

## SPECIAL EVENTS / PROGRAMS

UKC Winter Classic .....	78
Autumn Oaks .....	78
UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Championship Rules .....	79
UKC World Coonhound Bench Show Championship Rules .....	83
UKC Youth Coonhound Series Official UKC Licensed Youth Championship Rules .....	84
UKC Youth Nationals .....	85
Youth Education Program! .....	85
UKC Licensed Hunt Test Program .....	86
UKC Slam Events® .....	89
UKC Tournament of Champions .....	90

# General Information

## Schedule of Fees Effective January 1, 2020

### LICENSES

Master of Hounds (New Applicants Only).....	\$20
Bench Show Judges (New Applicants Only) .....	\$20

### EVENT LICENSES

Nite Hunt.....	\$25
Nite Hunt Double Header.....	\$35
Coonhound Bench Show .....	\$17
Coonhound Water Race .....	\$17
Coonhound Field Trial .....	\$17
Youth Events.....	\$10

### MISC. FEES

Conditional Entry Fee .....	\$5
Recording Fee for each dog entered	
Nite Hunt.....	\$7
Bench Show, Water Race, Field Trial .....	\$2
Youth Events.....	\$0
Hunt Test .....	\$3

**UKC reserves the right to change any and all policies, fees, etc. without notice. Major credit cards accepted.**

UKC is the trademark of the United Kennel Club, located in Kalamazoo, MI. The use of the initials UKC in association with any other registry would be in violation of the registered trademark. Notify United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584, should you become aware of such a violation.

## Inherent Rights & Powers Of UKC®

(Revised December 18, 2009)

United Kennel Club holds and has reserved to itself certain inherent rights and powers in connection with conducting its business, registering litters, transferring registrations of dogs, licensing events, and awarding titles. These inherent rights and powers include but are not limited to the following:

United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents related to UKC events. Some, but not all, of the items subject to inspection are:

- scores;
- disqualifications of dogs for fighting or other reasons;
- errors by the recording person; and
- documentation excluded for any reason.

UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found during such inspection whether or not the document has the signature of a Judge or Club Officer. UKC reserves the right to itself and in its sole judgment and discretion, to take such actions and impose such sanctions as would:

- Bar an individual from entering or participating in any way in any UKC licensed event.

- Bar an individual from transferring or registering any pups or dogs in that person's name (joint or full registration) or to any member of that person's family.
- Bar an individual from receiving Championship points for any dog registered in that person's name (joint or full registration). By way of illustration, the following constitute some, but not all, of the situations calling for the above sanctions:

- Falsification or alteration of a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- Falsification or alteration of any reports of wins issued to UKC.
- Falsification or alteration of receipts issued by UKC Judges.
- Switching, wrongfully using or attempting to use a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- Selling or attempting to sell a dog with false or incorrect UKC Registration Certificate or Pedigree.
- Intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Judge, Club/Association member or official, event participant or spectator, or UKC representative.

The six illustrations given above are only by way of example and UKC reserves to itself its inherent right and power to impose such sanctions in any other circumstances deemed appropriate by UKC.

Any individual who is found guilty by a court of law of a crime involving dogs will be barred from United Kennel Club for an indefinite period. A person shall be considered guilty in a criminal proceeding if they are convicted by a judge, jury, or if they enter a plea bargain or other arrangement to plea to a lesser offense, or if their case is disposed of by any form of deferred adjudication; a person shall be considered guilty in a civil proceeding if they are held responsible or liable by a judge, jury, or if a compromised settlement is reached between the parties.



Notwithstanding anything herein, UKC reserves the right to itself and its sole judgment and discretion to change, at any time, any UKC Rules and/or Policies as written in this rulebook. Any such changes will be published in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* and updated in the Rule Sections on the UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).

## Sending Work To UKC®

Correspondence receives prompt attention at UKC. You can speed up the process, however, by mailing your correspondence or requests for services to the proper departments (listed below) at 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584.

Mail Litter Applications to: **Litter Department**  
Mail Transfer of Ownerships and inquiries on registration papers to: **Transfer Department**  
Mail Applications for Duplicate Registration Certificates to: **Duplicate Department**

Mail requests and inquiries to:  
**Registration Correspondent**

Mail advertisements, articles and subscriptions to:  
**COONHOUND BLOODLINES**

Mail Applications for Events, inquiries about Championship points and Judges Applications to:  
**Coonhound Field Operations**

# Event Information

## Entering Dogs in UKC® Licensed Events

---

Only United Kennel Club registered Coonhounds may enter UKC Licensed Coonhound events.

---

### 1. THE “REGISTERED OWNER”

The registered owner is the individual whose name and address appears on the front of the Registration Certificate or UKC Easy Entry™ Card. If the registered owner utilizes the Registration Certificate instead of the UKC Easy Entry™ Card, they may enter the dog in the event provided that the back of the Registration Certificate is blank.

### 2. THE “NEW OWNER”

The new owner is an individual who has purchased a dog from the registered owner. The new owner may enter the dog as a Conditional Entry (see 3. Conditional Entries below). The new owner will enter the dog listing it in its registered name, registered owner (seller) as the owner and the new owner as the handler.

### 3. DOG AND OWNER INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ENTERING EVENTS

Three different ways to enter. Submit any of the following to entry takers.

1. Registration Certificate (not required to reflect Champion or Grand Champion).
2. UKC Easy Entry™ Card.
3. Photo of UKC Easy Entry™ Card saved on phone.

If the participant is not in possession of one of the three items above, they may enter the dog as a Conditional entry (see #4 below)

### 4. CONDITIONAL ENTRIES

A Conditional Entry is an alternative form of entering a dog in the event when the participant is not in possession of one of the three required forms of entry as shown above (3). A Conditional Entry may include one of the following:

- a. New Owner using Previous owner’s Easy Entry™ Card.
- b. UKC Registration Certificate, not yet transferred to new owner.
- c. Temporary Application for Puppy Papers (See policy below when entering dogs not yet permanently registered).
- d. No form of dog and owner information.

The participant may enter their dog as Conditional with an additional fee of \$5. It is the responsibility of the owner and/or handler that the information given and recorded on the Event Report is accurate. Otherwise, UKC may not award Championship points or wins for that specific entry. The Entry Taker will accept the entry and the additional \$5 fee. They will make record of such on the Event Report and mail them to UKC with all other Event Fees.

### 5. ENTERING DOGS NOT PERMANENTLY REGISTERED

An Application for Permanent Registration is most commonly referred to as puppy papers. Dogs still on puppy

papers (not permanently registered) may be entered as a Conditional Entry. The owner has 60 days, from the date of the event, to get the dog permanently registered for any championship points or wins to be awarded by UKC. If the dog is not permanently registered until after 60 days from the date of the event, the owner may pay a fee of \$50 to have those points or wins processed by UKC. Otherwise, a dog entered in an event that is not permanently registered will not be eligible for any championship points or wins.

### ENTERING IN NEXT HIGHEST CATEGORY

Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UKC Champion or Grand Champion degree in a Nite Hunt, Bench Show, Field Trial or Water Race may be entered in the higher category, with their previous category’s Easy Entry™ Card, until officially notified (updated Easy Entry™ Card and Degree mailed to owner) of their new title by United Kennel Club.

This is contingent on the condition that the records kept by the dog’s owners are consistent with those kept by UKC.

Neither UKC nor the host club are responsible for any mistakes made by, or on behalf of, the owner concerning the dog’s degree.

If it is found that the owner’s records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for a Championship title, any win(s) attained by that dog in the higher category will be considered void.

---

## UKC® Easy Entry™ Card

At no additional charge, UKC will mail, along with the UKC Registration Certificate and Pedigree, the UKC Easy Entry™ Card. The UKC Easy Entry™ Card may be used in place of the Registration Certificate when entering UKC licensed events. Updated cards will also be mailed, along with the Championship Degree, to the Registered Owner without charge, each time the dog earns a new UKC title.

Registered owners may still enter their dogs on their UKC Registration Certificate if they wish.

Additional Easy Entry™ cards are available for a fee from the Registration Department for multiple ownership situations.

---

### THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY

The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be refused or barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age or gender.

---

## Titles of Excellence from UKC® and Requirements to Earn Them

*Revised January 1, 2020*

The rules, regulations, classifications, classes and Championship points as recognized by the United Kennel Club are uniform throughout the United States and Canada. They are not given on a local or geographical basis.

## DEGREES OF EXCELLENCE AS ISSUED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED KENNEL CLUB

### 1. NITE HUNT DEGREES

**(a) UKC NITE CHAMPION (NITECH)** To be declared an official Nite Champion, a dog must have five cast wins in UKC Licensed Nite Hunts recorded on the records in the UKC Championship Office. A dog must hunt designated hunt time and have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before they can receive Championship wins.

**(b). GRAND NITE CHAMPION (GRNITECH)** Other than Autumn Oaks and the seven UKC Chartered Breed Association's Annual Breed Days Nite Hunts; Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions are drawn out and compete in the same division. GRNITECH degree is earned by winning eight (8) Champion Division casts at a UKC Licensed Nite Hunt. A dog must hunt designated hunt time and have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before they can receive Championship wins.

**(c). GRAND NITE CHAMPION MULTIPLIER DEGREES** Additional multiplier and UKC Hall of Fame degrees are earned and awarded to Grand Nite Champions as follows:

1. 8 cast wins (GRNITECH2)
2. 16 cast wins (GRNITECH3)
3. 24 cast wins (GRNITECH4)
4. 32 cast wins (GRNITECH5)
5. 37 cast wins (GRNITECHHOF)

### 2. BENCH SHOW DEGREES

**(a). UKC SHOW CHAMPION (CH)** The following points and classes have been established for the placement of a UKC Registered dog in order to earn Show Champion points:

Definition of Classes: Males and females are shown separately.

**Puppy Class:** Shall be for dogs six (6) months to one (1) year of age. The winner of this class will be awarded five (5) points.

**Junior Class:** Shall be for dogs one year of age and under two years of age. The winner of this class will be awarded five (5) points.

**Senior Class:** Shall be for dogs two years of age and over. The winner of this class will be awarded five (5) points.

**Best of Breed:** Shall be selected from the winners of the Puppy, Junior, and Senior Classes. The winner of this class shall be known as Best of Breed and shall be awarded ten (10) points.

**Best Male or Female of Show:** Shall be selected from the Best of Breed winners. The winner shall be known as Best Male or Female of Show and awarded 15 points.

Points Awarded:

- First in Class-Males..... 5 points
- First in Class-Females ..... 5 points
- Best Male of Breed.....10 points

Best Female of Breed .....10 points

Best Male of Show ..... 15 points

Best Female of Show.....15 points

Qualifications for UKC recognized Show Champion:

Dog must have earned a minimum of 100 UKC recorded Championship points and one win for "Best Male of Show" or "Best Female of Show". Dog must have competition at the Class, Breed or Show level at the event they win Best of Show. Dog having no competition will receive Championship points but no win toward the Show Champion degree. Points must be earned under at least two different Judges.

**(b) GRAND SHOW CHAMPION (GRCH)** Earned by winning eight (8) Champion of Champions show classes in at least eight different UKC Licensed Bench Shows. Must be under at least three different Judges. In this portion of the event, only Show Champions compete against Show Champions. Males and females will be shown separately, and a Championship win will be awarded to each sex.

#### **(c) GRAND SHOW CHAMPION MULTIPLIER DEGREES**

In this portion of the event, only Grand Show Champions compete against Grand Show Champions. Males and females will be shown separately, and a Championship win will be awarded to each sex. Additional multiplier and UKC Hall of Fame degrees are earned by Grand Show Champions and awarded as follows:

1. 8 wins (GRCH2)
2. 16 wins (GRCH3)
3. 24 wins (GRCH4)
4. 32 wins (GRCH5)
5. 40 wins (GRCHHOF)

Note: Each degree must be earned under at least three different judges.

### 3. FIELD TRIAL DEGREES

**(a) UKC FIELD CHAMPION (FCH)** Requires 100 Championship points and must include one First Tree and First Line win in the Grand Finals at least one time on the same date and in the same trial. Open registered dogs compete against other open registered dogs only in this category.

**(b) GRAND FIELD CHAMPION (GRFCH)** A Champion must win line or tree eight (8) times in the Grand Final in the Champion category, including at least one Line and one Tree in the Grand Final on the same date and in the same trial, to become a UKC Grand Field Trial Champion. Champions and Grand Champions compete in the same class in this category. EXCEPTION: The seven UKC Chartered Breed Associations have the option to separate Champions and Grand Champions at their Annual Breed Day events.

**(c) GRAND FIELD CHAMPION MULTIPLIER DEGREES** Additional multiplier and UKC Hall of Fame degrees are earned by Grand Field Champions and awarded as follows:

1. 8 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRFCH2)

2. 16 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRFCH3)
3. 24 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRFCH4)
4. 32 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRFCH5)
5. 40 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRFCHHOF)

Note: Each degree must include at least at least one Line and one Tree in the Grand Final on the same date and in the same trial.

#### 4. WATER RACE DEGREES

**(a) UKC WATER RACE CHAMPION (WCH)** Requires 100 Championship points and must include one First Tree and First Line win in Grand Finals at least one time on the same date and in the same race. Open registered dogs compete against other open registered dogs only in this category.

**(b) GRAND WATER RACE CHAMPION (GRWCH)** A Champion must win line or tree eight (8) times in the Grand Final in the Champion category, including at least one Grand Line and one Grand Tree Final on the same date and in the same race, to become a UKC Grand Water Race Champion. Champions and Grand Champions compete in the same class in this category. EXCEPTION: The seven UKC Chartered Breed Associations have the option to separate Champions and Grand Champions at their Annual Breed Day events.

**(c) GRAND WATER RACE CHAMPION MULTIPLIER DEGREES**

Additional multiplier and UKC Hall of Fame degrees are earned by Grand Water Race Champions and awarded as follows:

1. 8 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRWCH2)
2. 16 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRWCH3)
3. 24 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRWCH4)
4. 32 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRWCH5)
5. 40 line or tree wins in a Grand Final (GRWCHHOF)

Note: Each degree must include at least at least one Line and one Tree in the Grand Final on the same date and in the same race.

---

### Upcoming UKC® Licensed Events

*Revised January 1, 2020*

In an effort to aid clubs and provide a source of upcoming event advertising information, UKC requires that a club provide UKC only with complete information about their events. The information will then appear in the free event list, also known as “Upcoming UKC Licensed Events.”

This information appears each month in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES*, if confirmed in time to meet publication deadlines, and on the UKC website ([www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com)), listing all UKC licensed events for the following month. Information on July events will appear in the June issue. Upcoming UKC Licensed Events contains the following information: location, directions, date, licensed events held, entry deadline times, entry fees, awards given, special event note, who to contact and their phone number.

The information is organized first by state and then by date within that state.

Club secretaries should read the article, “Club Officer’s Guidelines for Conducting UKC Events.”

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Unless otherwise indicated in the Upcoming Events Listing, all casts will have Hunting Judges.

Non-Hunting Judges will be used at the UKC World Championship Finals.

#### Example:

##### MICHIGAN

**MI, Kalamazoo; Kalamazoo Co. CHA;** Follow I-94 north to N. Westnedge exit; turn right; ½ mi. to club. Contact Bob Jones (269) 555-1234.

Jan 17 NH 2hr 8:30 pm, \$15

Jan 18 BS 3:30 pm, \$15 FT 1:00 pm, \$10 RQE NH 2hr 8:30 pm, \$35

#### Explanation of Example:

In Kalamazoo, Michigan, the Kalamazoo Co. Coon Hunters Assn., on January 17, 2020, will be having a two-hour Nite Hunt. The deadline is 8:30 pm for taking entries and the entry fee is \$15.00.

On January 18, 2020, the club is having a bench show with the deadline for entries at 3:30 pm and an entry fee of \$15. They will also sponsor a Field Trial with the deadline for entries at 1:00 pm and an entry fee of \$10. This club is also having a Regional Qualifying Event on Saturday which is also a two-hour hunt. The deadline for entries is 8:30 and the entry fee is \$35.

---

### Awards At UKC® Licensed Events

*Revised January 1, 2020*

The Host Club has a few different options for awards to their winners. Trophies or plaques are the most popular because they give the winners a keepsake by which to remember their hunt at that club. Clubs may also choose to have a Poor Boy event where no awards are given. Generally, entry fees are lower for Poor Boy events. If the club chooses to not give awards they are strongly encouraged to note “Poor Boy” on the Event Confirmation form so it can be advertised as such.

Monetary prizes may also be awarded. The club may choose to pay back entry fees or some other monetary prize to their winners. In the event they wish to include an added purse in their award package the club should include such notice in the Special Instructions section when confirming the event. Distribution of such prize money is the sole responsibility of the club. The UKC will not enter into any disputes thereof.

UKC Slam events award monetary payouts to the winners based on the event fee and total entry. Payout

breakdowns are included with all Slam Event packets. See UKC® Slam Events® on page???.

The club must understand and be aware that there may be additional law and tax implications that they will need to adhere should they be interested in awarding monetary prizes or conducting any Calcutta-type activities at their event. UKC cannot provide any legal advice or information regarding any additional laws and/or tax implications that may be associated with such activities and is not responsible for any complications that may arise. Clubs are responsible for ensuring compliance on their own and must know that they proceed at their own risk with any such activities.

---

## **Club Officers Guidelines for Conducting UKC® Events**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR UKC APPROVED CLUBS:**

#### **I. Getting Your Club Approved by UKC:**

- A. The club name submitted to United Kennel Club will be considered your club's official name and will be utilized by UKC unless otherwise notified by your club in writing and signed by at least three officers of the club. We should be informed immediately of the names, complete addresses and telephone numbers of new officers following each election.
- B. UKC recommends a membership of 15 or more members. Clubs with fewer members are rarely successful.
- C. Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted to UKC.
- D. In addition to UKC rules and policies, clubs must ensure that all Federal, state and local laws must be followed. It is the club's responsibility to be aware of all applicable laws and regulations, and a statement to this effect must be included in the club Constitution and By-Laws.

Sample: All licensed events sponsored by the club will be run in accordance with the rules and policies set forth by the organization for which the license has been issued. The club shall also be aware of any and all Federal, state and local laws and are responsible to ensure that applicable laws and regulations are followed.

- E. The club must provide a complete membership list of all their active members.
- F. State the exact location where the events will be held (city and county). Be sure to list the next closest city if your location is not shown on the Atlas.
- G. A completed officers list stating the name, address and phone number of each officer. You must keep UKC updated on any change of officers or addresses.

Note: Because of the apparent over saturation of clubs holding UKC Licensed Events, the Coonhound Field Operations Department must inform your club of the

following policy:

Upon receipt of your club's request for approval, including your Constitution and By-Laws, club officer list and membership list, the Coonhound Field Operations Department will review not only your club's location but the number of clubs that are within approximately 100 miles of your club actively holding UKC Licensed Events. It is possible that your club will not be approved to hold UKC licensed Events based on club density.

#### **II. Suggestions for successful events:**

- A. Practice or "buddy" hunts should be conducted to familiarize members with the UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules.
- B. Contact your State Corporation office in order to make the club a non-profit Corporation.
- C. It is suggested that you purchase a liability insurance policy before conducting events.
- D. Periodic rules seminars should be held to update members on rule changes.
- E. Appoint separate committees for Nite Hunts, Bench Shows, Field Trials and Water Races. Committees for kitchen, membership, trophies or any other club activity will spread the workload around and insure success.
- F. Appoint a membership chairman to coordinate membership drives.
- G. Develop an active youth program to bring young hunters into your club. They are your future!

#### **III. Scheduling Your UKC Dates:**

- A. Contact the Coonhound Field Operations Department at the United Kennel Club at the following address to determine if the requested date is available and does not conflict with another club's event: Field Operations/United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584, (269) 343-9020, fieldoperations@ukcdogs.com. UKC endeavors to maintain the same dates for your licensed club events from year to year; however, they may vary a week or so, depending on the change in the calendar. Be sure to check the dates indicated on the Confirmation. These dates cannot be changed without approval from United Kennel Club. UKC will mail your club's scheduled dates each year to your corresponding officer. If there is any question about your dates, contact the Field Operations office immediately.
- B. Request for additional club dates must be made with ample time to meet Upcoming Events publication requirements (Allow at least 60 days prior to the event). A maximum of seven (7) dates may be granted.
- C. A club may not change the location of an event without contacting UKC at least 90 days prior to

the event. UKC reserves the right to grant or deny approval.

D. The corresponding officer must be sure to completely fill out all the requested information on their Event Confirmation form with entry deadlines and entry fees. If all information is not included, no license will be granted. Make sure that the Officers List contains the correct names, addresses and phone numbers of the club's officers. Return the Confirmation with the Officers List (if there are changes) and the proper fee two months prior to the event by the first of that month. Dates will not be held indefinitely. Provided the completed confirmation is received on time, your event will then be listed free in the "Upcoming UKC Licensed Events" listing in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* and the UKC website the month before the event is to be held.

E. Advertising Your Event.

1. Advertising other than that appearing in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* free upcoming events listing is not required.
2. If club does decide to advertise, the information in the advertisement must be the same as the information in the Upcoming Events listing. If information in an advertisement for an event disagrees with the information found in the Upcoming Events list, then the Upcoming Events list is considered correct and what the club must go by. The "Upcoming Events" listing on the UKC website is the final authority.
3. Immediately check the Upcoming Events Listing in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* the month prior to, or the Events Calendar on the UKC website, your event to see if all information is correct. Corrections may only be made for events held later than the date the magazine is mailed out. Corrections must be phoned in by the deadline for the issue the month the event is being held.

#### IV. How to Conduct your UKC Licensed Event.

A. Event Supplies:

1. Event supplies will be mailed weeks prior to the event to the corresponding officer currently on file at UKC.
2. Upon receipt of the package, the corresponding officer should check to make sure they have received all needed materials. If not, contact UKC immediately at (269) 343-9020 or [fieldoperations@ukcdogs.com](mailto:fieldoperations@ukcdogs.com). If the package is not received two weeks prior to the event, contact Field Operations immediately.

B. Licensed Officials: All clubs holding UKC licensed

events must check to see that the person serving their event as Master of Hounds (in MOH format events) or Bench Show Judge has a current UKC license. If the person does not have a current license in his possession, DO NOT schedule him or her to officiate the event. You have the right to request to see the license or you may contact UKC for verification. The most convenient place to verify is the "Officials" listing on the UKC website. If the individual serves your event without a current license, the club will be responsible and may lose approved status for future UKC licensed events. This policy will be rigidly enforced. Please confirm the status of the license well in advance of the event.

C. Things to do the Day of the Event:

1. Post legible signs at all major intersections directing participants to your club.
2. Post License, "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events" sheet and MOH/HD Checklist.
3. Post entry deadline time and deadline for return of scorecards.
4. Club is responsible for having an adequate number of qualified Guides on hand. \*Club is also responsible for guides they use having permission to hunt where they take their casts.

D. Taking Entries: Carefully follow the procedures outlined under the "Master of Hounds Guidelines" and "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events".

E. Reporting the Results of Your Event to UKC:

1. Complete the Official UKC report forms. Be sure that the UKC number, the registered owner's name, handler's name and address for each is correct. Use dog's complete registered name on reports.
2. All report forms must be thoroughly checked and signed by the MOH/HD, Bench Show Judge or Chairman of Judges.
3. Clubs must retain their copies of their reports in addition to the scorecards for a period of one year.
4. Completed and signed reports are then to be returned to UKC's Field Operations Department, along with the appropriate recording fee for each dog entered in each licensed event. **Reports must be submitted to UKC within ten (10) days of the event or a penalty charge of \$20 will be made. An additional charge of \$20 per month will be made for reports that are thirty (30) days past due.**

The club will be responsible for following the above rules. Failure to do so will result in the loss of approval of future licensed events and winning placements may be affected.

## UKC® Policy for Benefit Events

*Revised January 1, 2003*

United Kennel Club. realizes the importance of supporting charitable organizations and will help any club that is hosting a benefit event to raise money for nationally recognized charities. UKC will donate license fees, recording fees and a black and white quarter page ad in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* magazine if the following procedures and guidelines are followed.

Note: the club is responsible for submitting the information for the complimentary quarter-page ad to the UKC Magazine Department by the first of the month prior to the month of publication. This is in addition to the information supplied to Coonhound Field Operations.

1. UKC must be notified at least 90 days prior to the event that the club is requesting the event to be a benefit. This policy is rigidly enforced. UKC will then send out a "Benefit Event Statement" form.
2. UKC must approve of the nationally recognized organization or charity that is to receive the proceeds.
3. No less than 75% of the total profit must be donated by the club to the charity.
4. The signed and completed Benefit Event Application must be received by United Kennel Club two months prior to the event by the first of that month.
5. After your benefit has been approved, your club will be sent a Benefit Event Financial Statement. This statement must be completed and signed after the event by the authorized recipient of the funds for the charity. This must be submitted to United Kennel Club **WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE EVENT** in order to receive the donated fees and advertisement.
6. The quarter page ad must be submitted to *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* by the club, by the first of the month prior to the month of publication.
7. Clubs holding Annual Benefit Events must follow this procedure every year.

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for American Black & Tan Coonhound

Copyright 1989, United Kennel Club

*Revised May 1, 2016*



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

This standard was framed for the purpose of furnishing suggestions for breeding to the breeders in their aims toward improving the breed to higher ideals and to try and establish an international breed on this particular hound strain of bloodlines to look alike and have universal conformation. It will be noted that this standard has been in existence for more than 60 years and the hounds that we are following to day are the result of the loyal, dedicated, hard work of those that have preceded us.

### HISTORY

The Black & Tan is one of many tracking breeds that were developed in the southern United States. The breed can trace its immediate ancestry to the American Foxhound and the Virginia Foxhound of colonial days, with probably the introduction of some Bloodhound stock. This latter would not only explain the coloration of the Black & Tan, but its tendency toward being larger boned than other breeds, its long ears and its famous cold nose.

The American Black & Tan can probably be traced to the

English Foxhounds, and before that to the Tolbot Hounds and St. Hubert hounds of France. These hounds were first brought to England following the Norman invasion in the eleventh century. The American Black & Tan was the first coonhound breed to be admitted into the registry with UKC. When they were first registered in 1900, and for several years after that, they were registered as American Black & Tan Fox and Coonhound.

#### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Black & Tan Coonhound is a working hound that trails his quarry completely by scent. He is strong and sturdy without being coarse or cloddy. He is balanced, agile and sound, with the ability to cover ground easily, efficiently and tirelessly in the pursuit of game.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Active, fast, bright, kind, confident and courageous, with open trailing and treeing instinct and ability.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

#### HEAD

Carried well up, very slightly domed and broad between the ears, never narrow.

**MUZZLE** - Well-balanced with the other features of the head, medium square, with flews sufficient to give a square appearance. Nostrils large, open; black in color, never butterfly or pink.

**TEETH** - Scissors bite preferred, even bite acceptable.

*Disqualifications:* Undershot or overshot.

**EYES** - Prominent, hound-like, pleading expression. Dark brown or black, not lighter than hazel. Eyelids firm and close (no drooping).

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**EARS** - Set medium low, well attached to head and devoid of erectile power, should reach approximately to end of nose when drawn out. Should hang gracefully, inside part tipping toward muzzle, should not be too pointed at tip, slightly oval, soft and velvety, hanging in a roll when head is raised.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

#### NECK

Not too thick, nor too long, but graceful and strong; minimum of dewlap.

#### FOREQUARTERS

**SHOULDERS** - Muscular and sloping; indicating speed and strength.

**FORELEGS** - Straight, smooth forearms, muscular, straight at knees, perfectly in line with upper leg.

#### BODY

**CHEST** - Deep, moderately wide, showing large lung space.

**BACK** - Short and slightly arched, well muscled and strong. This is one important part of the breed. A good rule to breed to is the same distance from root of tail to shoulder as height at shoulder.

#### HINDQUARTERS

**HIPS** - Smooth, round, proportionately wide, flanks gracefully arched, muscular at the loins.

**HIND LEGS** - Strong and muscular above hock. Slightly bent at hock and stifle, not cow hocked, free of dewclaws.

#### FEET

Tight and well padded. Toes short to medium and close knit. Neither cat-footed nor splay-footed. Foot to be proportionate to the size of the body.

#### TAIL

Heavy, strong at root tapering there, rather long without brush, carried free, well-up, saber like.

#### COAT

Smooth haired, fine, glossy, but thick enough for protection.

#### COLOR

Predominately deep, rich black, with tan trim covering not more than 10-15 percent of body. Small pumpkin seeds over the eyes. A little white on breast is not a fault, but no white elsewhere.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. White anywhere other than a small patch on the breast.

#### HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

**SIZE** - Slightly more at shoulders than at hips. Males: 23-27 inches. Females: 21-26 inches.

**WEIGHT** - Dogs being shown slightly under weight due to hunting will not be penalized. This is a working breed and should appear as such. Males: 50-75 pounds. Females: 40-65 pounds.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 26 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### ELIMINATING FAULTS

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches.

Females under 21 inches or over 26 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Undershot or overshot.

Albinism.

Deaf.

Blind.

White anywhere other than a small patch on the breast.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for American Leopard Hound

Copyright 2000, United Kennel Club

Revised January 1, 2016



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated. Though merle is an equally accepted color variation of the American Leopard Hound, it is strongly advised that merles not be bred to merles, because it often results in hereditary problems, to include blindness and deafness.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

### HISTORY

American Leopard Hounds are believed to be the descendants of dogs that were brought to the new world by Spanish conquistadors and crossed with native Mexican dogs. Early American settlers brought Leopard dogs from Mexico to hunt bear.

The Leopard Cur was recognized by UKC on November 1, 1998. The breed name was changed to American Leopard Hound May 1, 2008.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The American Leopard Hound is a powerful, agile tree dog of medium-to-large size. The body is just slightly longer than tall. Legs are long enough to allow the dog to move quickly and with agility in rough terrain. The head is broad, with a moderate stop and a heavy muzzle of moderate length. Ears are set high and drop. The tail is straight, set low, and may be any length. The coat is dense but close fitting. The American Leopard Hound should be evaluated as a hunting dog, and exaggerations or faults should be penalized in proportion to how much they interfere with the dog's ability to hunt. Scars should neither be penalized nor regarded as proof of a dog's working abilities.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid. Deaf. Blind.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The American Leopard Hound is an all-purpose tree dog, noted for stamina and the ability to withstand all extremes of temperature. This breed is noted for its extreme desire to please, which makes it an easy dog to train. They can handle a cold track and still be under the voice control of the handler. They are open trailers with a very strong desire to stay on track. They excel in their ability to hold game at bay without getting injured. Although they have been bred and used for all varieties of small game, the American Leopard Hound is also outstanding on big game such as bear and cougar.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

### HEAD

The head is large but proportionate to the size of the body. When viewed from the side, the muzzle is slightly shorter than the skull and they are joined by a definite stop. The planes of the top lines of the skull and muzzle lie in parallel planes.

**SKULL** - The skull is flat and broad, tapering in width slightly toward the muzzle. Cheeks are muscular and prominent.

**MUZZLE** - The muzzle is of medium length and well proportioned to the rest of the head. Lips are tight and darkly pigmented.

**TEETH** - The American Leopard Hound has a complete set of evenly spaced white teeth meeting in a scissors bite.

*Disqualifications:* Overshot or undershot bite.

**NOSE** - Nose pigment is dark, usually black. Red merle-colored dogs have brown or liver colored noses and pigment.

**EYES** - Eyes are nearly round and set wide apart. Eye color may be any shade of yellow or brown. Leopard spotted dogs may have one or both blue eyes or wall eyes. Eye rims are tight and darkly pigmented. The expression is soft and appealing.

*Disqualification:* Blindness.

**EARS** - Ears are drop, of short-to-medium length, wide at the base, and set high.

*Disqualification:* Deafness.

#### **NECK**

The neck is slightly arched, strong, very well muscled, and of moderate length. The neck gradually widens from the nape and blends smoothly into the shoulders.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Shoulders are well laid back. The upper arm is long and wide, and forms an apparent 90-degree angle with the shoulder blade.

**FORELEGS** - The forelegs are strong and straight, with large, round bones. The elbows are set close to the body, but able to move freely in action. The pasterns are short, powerful, straight and flexible.

#### **BODY**

A properly proportioned American Leopard Hound is slightly longer than tall. Back is broad, strong, of moderate length, and level, blending into a muscular, slightly arched loin with slight to moderate tuck-up. The croup slopes gently to the set on of the tail. The ribs extend well back and are well sprung out from the spine, then curve down and inward to form a deep body. The brisket extends to the elbow. Viewed from the front, the chest between the forelegs is muscular and wide. This is a dog bred for stamina and faults should be penalized to the degree that they detract from that goal.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

The hindquarters are strong and muscular. The bone, angulation, and musculature of the hindquarters are in balance with the forequarters.

**HIND LEGS** - The stifles are well bent, and the hocks are well let down. When the dog is standing, the short, strong rear pasterns are perpendicular to the ground, and when viewed from the rear they are parallel to one another.

#### **FEET**

The cat-like feet are of moderate size, round and compact, with well arched toes. Pads are large, tough, and well cushioned.



#### **TAIL**

The tail is set on low and may be any length.

#### **COAT**

Coat is double and dense, but smooth. The outer coat is rough, and the undercoat is fine and wooly. This makes it possible for dogs to work in the thick underbrush for long periods of time after most dogs have given up.

*Disqualifications:* Excessively long hair, silky or wavy hair.



#### **COLOR**

Leopard spotted; yellow; black (may have brindle or tan

trim); brindle; red and blue or mouse color. Any of these may also have white points and a white collar. No more than one-third white is allowed.

*Disqualifications:* A dog that is more than one-third white. Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Height at the withers for mature males is between 22 and 27 inches. For adult females, it is 21 to 25 inches. Mature males weigh between 45 and 75 pounds. Mature females weigh between 35 and 65 pounds. American Leopard Hounds are working dogs and should be presented in hard, muscular condition.

#### GAIT

American Leopard Hound gait is smooth and effortless, with good reach of forequarters. Rear quarters have strong driving power, with hocks fully extending. Viewed from any position, legs turn neither in nor out, nor do feet cross or interfere with each other. As speed increases, feet tend to converge toward center line of balance.

#### DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

A dog that is more than one-third white.

Excessively long hair, silky or wavy hair.

Overshot or undershot bite.

Deafness.

Blindness.

Any color or combination of colors other than described.

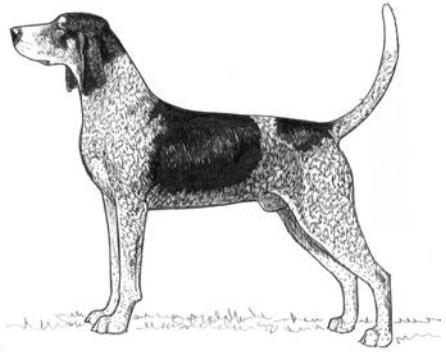
*The docking of tails and cropping of ears in America is legal and remains a personal choice. However, as an international registry, the United Kennel Club is aware that the practices of cropping and docking have been forbidden in some countries. In light of these developments, the United Kennel Club feels that no dog in any UKC event, including conformation, shall be penalized for a full tail or natural ears.*

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for Bluetick Coonhound

Copyright 1986, United Kennel Club

Revised January 1, 2016



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

*This standard has been framed for three real purposes. First, to act as a guide for the Judges at Bench Shows. Second, to furnish suggestions for breeders for improving the breed, and to promote higher ideals for their breeding programs. Third, to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the country.*

#### HISTORY

It is most likely that the Bluetick is principally descended from the quick foxhounds of England with some introduction of the blood of various French hounds which were used for hunting big game. The French dogs were known as being very cold nosed. George Washington received five such French hounds from General Lafayette.

Blueticks were originally registered with UKC as English. In 1946, at the request of the Bluetick fanciers, UKC began registering Blueticks as a separate breed.

#### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Bluetick Coonhound should have the appearance of a speedy and well-muscled hound. He has a neat body

that is well proportioned; not clumsy or chunky in build. He has a glossy coat, and clear, keen eyes, with a typical pleading hound expression, never wild or cowering. As a Scenthound, the Bluetick's natural position of the head and tail in motion is parallel to the ground; the tail is not curled over the back or dropped between legs.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The Bluetick is active, ambitious and speedy on the trail. It should be a free tonguer on trail, with a bawl, squall, chop or bugle voice when striking and trailing, with a distinct changeover on tree of bawling, chopping, or combination of both, and be willing to be hospitable to both men and dogs which are around them.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

### HEAD

The head is broad between the ears, with a slightly domed skull. Total length of head from occiput to end of nose is 9 to 10 inches in males, and 8 to 9 inches in females. The stop is prominent. The muzzle from the stop to the end of the nose should be well proportioned in width with the skull, with depth of flews well covering the lower jaw. Depth of foreface should be 3 to 4½ inches.

**EYES** - Rather large, set wide apart at the stop. Round in shape, and dark brown in color, but not lighter than light brown. Eyelids are tight and close fitting. No excess third eyelid should be apparent. Expression is a typical pleading hound expression, never wild or cowering.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**TEETH** - A scissors bite is preferred; an even bite is acceptable.

*Disqualifications:* Undershot or overshot.

**NOSE** - Fully pigmented, black in color; with well-opened nostrils.

**EARS** - The ears are attached slightly below top of skull, but set low enough on head to be devoid of erectile power. Should be thin, with a slight roll, taper well towards a point, and reach well towards the end of the nose when pulled forward. Well attached to head to prevent hanging or backward tilt.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

**MUZZLE** - From stop to end of nose should be square, well proportioned in width with the skull, with depth and flews well covering the lower jaw. Depth of 3 to 4½.

### NECK

Muscular and of moderate length, rising with a slight taper from shoulder to head that allows the head to be carried well up but not vertical (goose necked). Throat clean, with only a slight trace of dewlap.

### FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders clean and sloping, muscular, but not too broad or rough, giving the appearance of freedom of movement and strength.

**FORELEGS** - The forelegs are straight from shoulders to feet, well boned, and muscular, with strong straight pasterns. Forelegs should appear straight from either side or front view.

### BODY

The chest should show considerable depth (extending well down toward the elbow), rather than excessive width, to allow plenty of lung space. The forechest is moderate fairly even with the point of the shoulders. Girth of chest for males 26 to 34 inches, for females 23 to 30 inches. Ribs are long and well sprung, tapering gradually toward a moderate tuck-up. Back is muscular and firm, slightly lower at hips than at withers. Loin is broad, well muscled and slightly arched. Proportion (measured from point of shoulder to base of tail and withers to ground) is square or slightly longer than tall.

### HINDQUARTERS

Hips are strong and well muscled, not quite as wide as rib cage.

**HIND LEGS** - Hind legs are straight from hip to foot when viewed from behind. The hocks strong and moderately bent when viewed from the side. Thighs have ample muscular development for an abundance of propelling power. Breeching full and clean down to hock.

### FEET

Round (cat-like), with well-arched toes. Pads are strong, hard and thick. The size of the feet should be proportionate to the size of the dog.

### TAIL

Set on slightly below the line of the back, strongly rooted, and tapering to a moderate length. In balance to the overall length of the hound. Well coated but without flag. Carried gaily, slight curve or parallel to ground, but not turned forward over the back or dropped between legs.

### COAT

Medium coarse, and laying close to the body, appearing smooth and glossy. Not too rough or too short.

### GAIT

A smooth lithe gait is essential. The action of the Bluetick Coonhound is a strong, driving, smooth gait. The over-all appearance in motion should be that of effortless power, endurance, speed, agility, smoothness and grace.

When viewed from the front, the front legs must reach well out in front in straight lines, with pasterns strong and springy as if to pull in the ground. Hackneyed motion is not desired, nor is paddling or weaving.

The rear legs follow the front legs, which give forceful propulsion, thus the Bluetick moves in a straight pattern forward.

When viewed from the side there should be a noticeable drive, with a ground-covering stride.

### HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Height at withers for adult males, not less than 22 inches

or more than 27 inches. Height at withers for adult females, not less than 21 inches or more than 25 inches. Ideal weight for males 55 to 80 pounds; females 45 to 65 pounds, to be in proportion to the size of the hound.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### COLOR

Preferred color is a dark blue, thickly mottled body, spotted by various shaped black spots on back, ears and sides. Preference is to more blue than black on body. Head and ears predominantly black. With or without tan markings (over eyes, on cheeks, chest and below tail), and red ticking on feet and lower legs. Red may be eliminated as to the desire of the breeder, as well as the amount of black on the body and the tan head coloring.

A fully blue mottled body is preferred over light ticking on the body. There should be more blue ticking than white in the body coat.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### ELIMINATING FAULTS

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches.

Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Undershot or overshot.

Deaf.

Blind.

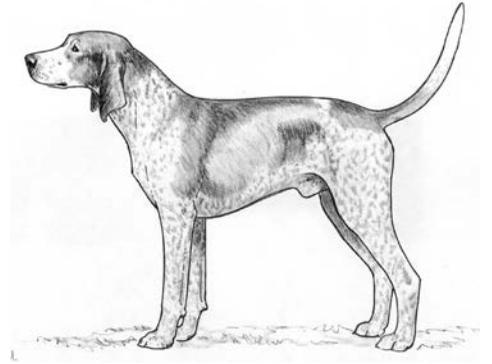
Any color or combination of colors other than described.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for English Coonhound

Copyright 1980, United Kennel Club

Revised January 1, 2016



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

#### HISTORY

The history of the English Coonhound is the history of nearly all coonhounds. With the exception of the Plott Hound, all of the UKC breeds of coonhounds have a common ancestry that is deeply rooted in the English Foxhound.

The English Coonhound was first registered by UKC in 1905, under the name of English Fox & Coonhound. In those days the dogs were used much more on fox than they are today. The name also reflected the similarity that the breed had to the American Foxhound and the English Foxhound.

The variation in color is another aspect of English Coonhound history. Both the Treeing Walker and the Bluetick Coonhound were originally registered with UKC as English. The Walker was recognized as a separate breed in 1945, and the Bluetick a year later. There are still tri-colored and blueticked English hounds, though redticked dogs dominate in the breed today.

The first mention of hounds in America appears in the diary of one of the men who was with the explorer DeSoto. He also mentions that the hounds were used for the hunting of Indians rather than fox, raccoon or rabbit.

In 1650, Englishman Robert Brooke brought his pack of hounds to America with him. Thomas Walker of Virginia imported hounds from England in 1742, and in 1770 George Washington, an avid fox hunter, had hounds imported from England. These dogs were the foundation of the "Virginia Hounds", from which the present day English Coonhound was developed.

The Americans adapted the animals to the much rougher American terrain and climate, and, through careful breeding practices, adapted the hounds to American game: raccoon, opossum, cougar and various species of bear.

English hounds have excelled in both performance and conformation. The first major coonhound Field Trial of all time, the first Leafy Oak, was won by an English dog called "Bones", owned by Colonel Leon Robinson.

#### **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

The English Coonhound is a dog of strong build, capable of considerable speed and great endurance. He is balanced, graceful and free from exaggeration.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS**

Pleasant and sociable, with strong hunting instincts. Voice is a good hound bawl.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

#### **HEAD**

The head is broad between the ears, and of good overall length. Skull very slightly domed. Muzzle is long, deep and square, with enough flew to give the jaw a squared off appearance. Stop is well defined but moderate.

**TEETH** - Scissors bite preferred, even bite acceptable.

Undershot or overshot are disqualifying faults.

**EYES** - Fairly large and set moderately well apart in skull.

Dark brown in color with tight fitting lids.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**NOSE** - Large with well-opened nostrils.

**EARS** - Set fairly low on skull, fine in texture and soft to the touch. Fairly long, reaching nearly to the nose when pulled forward.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

#### **NECK**

Nicely muscled, of moderate length, tapering slightly as it rises up out of the withers.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forelegs set well apart, and are straight and strong, with good bone. Pasterns nearly vertical, but with enough slope to absorb shock. Length of leg from elbow to ground is approximately one-half the height at the withers. Sloping shoulders are clean yet strongly muscled.

#### **BODY**

Chest is deep, reaching to elbow, and broad. Ribs are well-sprung. Back is straight and strong, never roached. Topline is slightly higher at withers than at hips. Loin is strongly muscled and slightly arched. Underline curves gracefully upward to a moderate tuck up at the flank. Overall proportion (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks and withers to ground) is square, or slightly longer than tall.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

Hips and thighs are strongly muscled, showing drive and power. Stifles are stout and have good angulation. Hock joint has moderate angulation. Rear pasterns are strong and straight when viewed from behind. Dewclaws removed.

Lack of angulation is a highly undesirable feature: i.e., post legged.

#### **FEET**

Tight, well-arched toes, deep pads, and strong nails.

#### **TAIL**

Moderately set and gaily carried, but never hooked over the back. Medium length, with a small amount of brush acceptable. Never overly long and thin.

#### **COAT**

A good hard, protective, hound type coat of medium length.

#### **COLOR**

Redtick, bluetick, tri color with ticking, white and red, white and black, white and lemon.

*Disqualifications:* Any brindle in coat. Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### **HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**

Height at withers for adult males, 22 to 27 inches. For adult females, 21 to 25 inches. Weight should be in proportion to height, keeping in mind the strong build of the English Coonhound.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **GAIT**

Smooth and effortless, showing great capacity for endurance. Head and tail carried well up.

#### **ELIMINATING FAULTS**

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Any brindle in coat.

Undershot or overshot.  
 Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.  
 Viciousness or extreme shyness.  
 Albinism.  
 Any color or combination of colors other than described.  
 Deaf.  
 Blind.  
**SERIOUS FAULT**  
 Lacking in adequate angulation: i.e. post legged.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for Plott Hound

Copyright 1982, United Kennel Club  
 Revised January 1, 2020



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

### HISTORY

Of the seven breeds of UKC registered Coonhounds, the Plott Hound and the American Leopard Hound do not trace their ancestry to the foxhound. And, of those seven breeds, we can be most certain of the Plott's heritage and the men most responsible for its development.

The ancestors of today's Plott Hounds were used for boar hunting in Germany many years ago. Jonathon Plott left his native Germany and came to this country in 1750. He brought a few wild boar hounds with him. These dogs had been bred for generations for their stamina and gameness. Plott and his family settled in the mountains of western North Carolina.

In those days there were no wild boars in this country. Jonathon Plott used his dogs for hunting bear.

Plott supposedly kept his strain entirely pure, making no outcrosses. In 1780, the Plott pack passed into the hands of Henry Plott.

Shortly after that time a hunter living in Georgia who had been breeding his own outstanding strain of "leopard spotted bear dogs" heard of the fame of the Plott Hounds and came to North Carolina to see for himself. He was so impressed that he borrowed one of Plott's top stud dogs for a year to breed to his own bitches. This single cross is the only known instance of new blood being introduced into the Plott Hound since they first came to this country.

Other crosses possibly took place around the year 1900. G.P. Ferguson, who was a neighbor of the Plott family in North Carolina in those days, was a major influence on the Plott breed. He made a careful study of the Blevins hounds and the Cable hounds of that era. To what extent he used these bloodlines in his Plott breeding program is not known.

The Plott Hound was first registered with the United Kennel Club in 1946. Today's Plotts are known for their great courage and stamina. They have a clear voice that carries well.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Plott is a beautiful, strongly build yet moderate hound, with a distinct brindle colored coat. His appearance suggests the capacity for speed, stamina and endurance.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

### CHARACTERISTICS

This breed is active, fast, bright, kind, confident and courageous. They are vicious fighters on game, have a super treeing instinct and take readily to water. They are alert and quick to learn. Voice is open trailing, bawl and chop.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

### HEAD

The head is moderately wide in skull and somewhat flat on top. The muzzle is of medium length, strong but not squared off in profile.

TEETH - Scissors bite preferred, even bite acceptable.

*Disqualifications:* Undershot or overshot.

EYES - Prominent, set moderately wide apart in skull, brown or hazel in color. Eyelids tight, with no drooping. Expression is kind and intelligent.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

NOSE - Large, with well-opened nostrils. Fully pigmented,

black in color.

**EARS** - Set moderately high and of medium length, soft to the touch, with no erectile power.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

#### **NECK**

Medium length, well muscled, slightly arched at the crest.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forelegs perfectly straight and well covered with smooth muscles. Pasterns short, strong and nearly upright. Shoulders are muscular and sloping to indicate speed and strength. Length of leg from elbow to ground is approximately one-half the height at the withers.

#### **BODY**

Chest is deep to elbow and moderately broad, giving adequate lung space. Ribs are nicely sprung, tapering to a graceful tuck-up at the flank. Back is broad, well muscled, level. Never roached. Loins muscular and slightly arched. Overall proportion is square or slightly longer than tall, measured from point of shoulders to point of buttocks and withers to ground.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

Hips are smooth, round, proportionately wide and well muscled. Legs are strong and muscular above the hock, with moderate angulation at the stifle and hock joints. Short and straight from hock to heel, never cow hocked. Without rear dewclaws.

#### **FEET**

Round, cat-like foot, with deep pads and well-knuckled toes.

#### **TAIL**

Rather long, moderately heavy, strong at the root and tapering to the end. Some brush. Carried free, well up and saber like.

#### **COAT**

Fine to medium coarse in texture. Short or medium in length, with a smooth and glossy appearance.

#### **COLOR**

Any shade of brindle (a fine streaked or striped pattern of dark hair imposed on a lighter background, or lighter streaks or stripes on a dark background); Brindle with a black saddle and black with brindle trim, solid buckskin and solid black. Some white on chest and feet is permissible, as is a graying effect around the jaws and muzzle. All things being equal, brindle is preferred.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### **SIZE AND WEIGHT**

Height at withers for adult males, 22 to 27 inches. For adult females, 21 to 25 inches.

Weight for males is 50 to 75 pounds, for females 40 to 65 pounds.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **GAIT**

Quick and agile, with head and tail carried well up.

#### **ELIMINATING FAULTS**

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Any color or combination of colors other than described.

Undershot or overshot.

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Deaf.

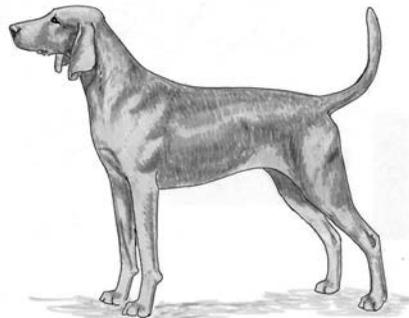
Blind.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nitc hunts, water races and field trials.*

## **Official UKC® Breed Standard for Redbone Coonhound**

Copyright 1982, United Kennel Club

Revised January 1, 2016



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be

regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

#### **HISTORY**

Years ago, most coon hunters who owned a red dog of unknown ancestry, but proven ability in tracking and treeing raccoons, called his dog a "Redbone". Then a few serious breeders who were devoted both to the breed and the sport began a campaign of selective breeding to produce a hound with the necessary characteristics to make a superior coonhound that would breed true to type in color and conformation.

The foundation stock of the modern day Redbone came from George F.L. Birdsong of Georgia, who was a noted foxhunter and breeder. He obtained the pack of Dr. Thomas Henry in the 1840's.

As is the case with most of the other coonhound breeds, the ancestors of the Redbone were foxhounds. A Bloodhound cross is said to have been made, and it's also said that the blood of the Irish hounds was introduced later. This latter cross is said to account for the white chest and feet markings which still occasionally show up in Redbone pups today.

The first dogs were commonly called "Saddlebacks". The background color was red, and most of them possessed black saddle markings. By selective breeding, the black saddle was bred out and the solid red dogs became known as Redbone Coonhounds.

The Redbone was the second coonhound breed to be registered with UKC, the first one being registered in 1902, two years after the American Black & Tan. Today, of the seven coonhound breeds, the Redbone is probably the most uniform as to type and size. They are coon hunting specialists but also proficient in trailing and treeing bear, cougar and bobcat. Often times, when used on big game, Redbones are hunted in packs.

#### **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

The Redbone is a medium-sized hound, with a rich, deep red colored coat. He is well-balanced and agile, making him adaptable to various types of hunting and terrain.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS**

This breed is characterized by its pleading eyes and "sweet" voice. They have a natural treeing instinct and make excellent water dogs. They are even tempered and affectionate with a strong desire to please.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

#### **HEAD**

Moderately broad, and slightly domed in skull, proportionate to general body size. Muzzle is well balanced with the other features of the head, as long as the skull, with a straight nasal bone, never dish-faced or concave. The planes of the top skull and muzzle are parallel. Stop

is well defined but not abrupt. The head gives the general impression of length rather than width.

**TEETH** - Scissors bite preferred, even bite acceptable.

*Disqualifications:* Undershot or overshot.

**EYES** - Set fairly well apart in skull, brown to hazel in color, with the darker color preferred. Round in shape but not prominent. Expression is pleading.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**NOSE** – Large, with well-opened nostrils. Black in color, fully pigmented.

**EARS** - Set moderately low, firmly attached to head. Fine in texture, not stiff, and reaching near the end of the nose when stretched forward. Size in proportion to head.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

#### **NECK**

Medium long, strong, slightly arched and held erect, denoting proudness. Throat clean, but slight fold of skin below angle of jaw is not objectionable.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forelegs straight, with good bone, set well under body. Cleanly muscled for strength and speed. Pasterns strong and straight, nearly vertical with just enough slope to absorb shock. Length of leg from elbow to ground is approximately one-half the height at withers. Shoulders sloping, clean and muscular.

#### **BODY**

Chest is both deep and broad, and ribs are well sprung for plenty of lung space. Topline is slightly higher at withers than at hips. Back is strong and straight, loin muscular and slightly arched, with moderate tuck up. Overall proportion (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks and withers to ground) is square or slightly longer than tall.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

Thighs well muscled and strong. Rear legs straight from hip to foot when viewed from behind, never cowhocked. Dewclaws removed. Moderate angulation at stifle and hock to balance with forequarter. Rear pasterns short and strong.

#### **FEET**

Cat-like. Compact, and well padded, with strong, well arched toes and stout, well set nails.

#### **TAIL**

Set slightly below the line of the back, moderate in length, with a slight brush.

#### **COAT**

Typical short, close, glossy, hound type coat.

#### **COLOR**

Solid red preferred, small amount of white on brisket or feet not objectionable.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### **HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**

Height at withers for adult males, 22 to 27 inches. For adult females, 21 to 25 inches. Weight proportionate to size and medium build.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### GAIT

The well balanced and agile Redbone moves freely and easily at a reasonable speed with head and tail carried well up.

#### ELIMINATING FAULTS

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Undershot or overshot.

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Any color or combination of colors other than described.

Deaf.

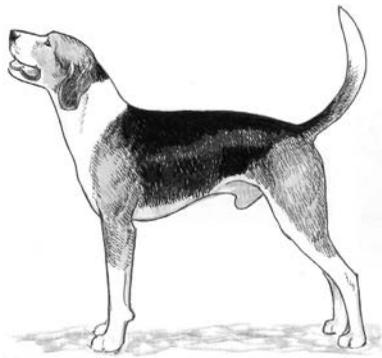
Blind.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Official UKC® Breed Standard for Treeing Walker Coonhound

Copyright 1945, United Kennel Club

Revised January 1, 2016



The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: to furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

#### HISTORY

The Treeing Walker was developed from certain strains of English Walker Foxhounds. The credit for the development of the Walker Foxhound goes to two men - George Washington Maupin and John W. Walker. Both men were from Kentucky.

Before that time, Thomas Walker of Albemarle County, Virginia, imported hounds from England in 1742. George Washington, who was an avid fox hunter, also imported several hounds from England in 1770. These dogs became the foundation strains of the "Virginia hounds", which were developed into the Walker hound.

At least one major outcross was made in the 19th century that was to forever influence the breed. Strangely, the outcross was with a stolen dog from Tennessee of unknown origin, known as Tennessee Lead.

Lead didn't look like the Virginia strain of English Foxhounds of that dog, but he had an exceptional amount of game sense, plenty of drive and speed, and a clear, short mouth.

Walkers were first registered with UKC as part of the English Coonhound breed. Then in 1945, at the request of Walker breeders, UKC began registering them as a separate breed - first as Walkers (Treeing) and then later as Treeing Walkers.

#### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Treeing Walker is a well-balanced, symmetrical, graceful hound well known for his ability to run and tree a variety of game on varying kinds of terrain.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

#### CHARACTERISTICS

Energetic, intelligent, active, courteous, composed, confident, fearless and kind. This breed has a super abundance of sense and is capable of great endurance. Excellent trailing, hunting and treeing instinct and ability. Voice is preferably a clear, ringing bugle or a steady, clear chop. Noticeable change in voice at tree.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

#### HEAD

Head is in pleasing proportion to the body. Skull is broad and full, slightly rounded, with a prominent occiput. Muzzle is rather long, tapering slightly to end, medium square, with flews sufficient to give a rather squared

off appearance. Nasal bone is straight. Stop is medium, defined but not abrupt.

**TEETH** - Scissors bite preferred, even bite acceptable.

*Disqualifications:* Undershot or overshot.

**EYES** - Moderately large and prominent, and set well apart in skull. Color is dark, brown or black, giving a soft, open expression.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**NOSE** - Rather large and prominent, with black pigment preferred. White or pink spots inside the nostril or on the outside of the nose are acceptable. A slightly sloping nostril is not objectionable.

**EARS** - Medium length and set moderately low, the ears hang gracefully, with a tendency to roll when the head is raised. Slightly round or oval at the tip, and soft and velvety to the touch.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

#### **NECK**

Neck is medium in length, strong yet graceful, rising freely from the shoulders to carry the head well up. Throat is clean and free from folds of skin; however, a slight wrinkle below the angle of the jaw is allowable.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forelegs are straight, with a fair amount of bone and a short, straight, slightly sloping pastern. Length of leg from elbow to ground is approximately one-half the height at the withers. Shoulders are sloping and cleanly muscled without a heavy or loaded appearance.

#### **BODY**

Chest is deep rather than broad, giving lung space. Ribcage is well-sprung and long, extending well back. Back is moderately long, muscular, level and strong. Loins short, broad and slightly arched. Tuck-up moderate. Overall proportion (measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks and withers to ground) is square or slightly longer than tall.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

Hips and thighs are strong and well muscled, for an abundance of propelling power. Stifle and hock joints are strong and firm, with moderate angulation. Legs are straight from hip to foot when viewed from behind. Dewclaws removed.

#### **FEET**

Solid, compact and well padded, with a cat-like appearance. Toes are well arched with strong nails.

#### **TAIL**

Strong at root, moderately long and tapering, without flag. Set rather high and carried free, well up and saber like with a graceful forward curve.

#### **COAT**

Smooth, glossy and fine, yet dense enough for protection. A close, hard, hound coat.

#### **COLOR**

Tri-colored (white-black-tan) is preferred. White may be the predominant color, with black spots and tan trim; or black may be the predominant color with white markings and tan trim, such as saddle back, or blanket back. White with tan spots, or white with black spots is acceptable.

Any other color combination is to be penalized in the show ring.

*Disqualifications:* Albinism. Any color or combination of colors other than described.

#### **HEIGHT AND WEIGHT**

Height at withers for adult males, 22 to 27 inches. For adult females, 20 to 25 inches. Weight should be in proportion to size and working condition.

*Eliminating Faults:* Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 20 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **GAIT**

The Treeing Walker moves with good reach and drive, showing good balance. Hackney (high stepping) movement is a fault.

#### **ELIMINATING FAULTS**

*(A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.)*

Males under 22 inches or over 27 inches. Females under 20 inches or over 25 inches. (Entries in Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being undersize.)

#### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)*

Undershot or overshot.

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Albinism.

Any color or combination of colors other than described.

Deaf.

Blind.

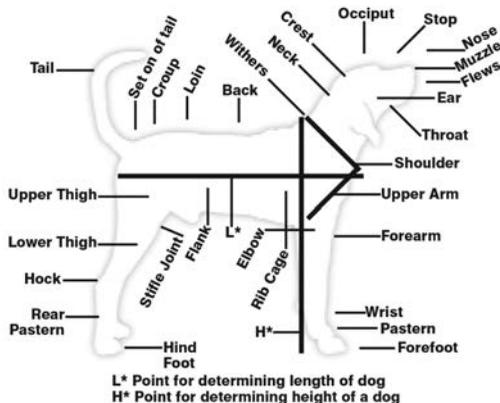
#### **NOTICE**

Working dogs are not to be penalized under any conditions for scars or blemishes that are due to hunting injuries. Females that have raised several litters and show dropped udders are also not to be penalized.

*Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.*

## Relative Importance Of Body Parts For All Coonhound Breeds

To aid in the judging of coonhounds, the following illustration is presented as a guide to assist the Judge. It must be remembered that balance is the most desired quality to seek in evaluating dogs. It is the way those parts work in unison that make up the proper working hound. Remember: the whole dog is more important than the individual parts!



### Height Standard

Measuring the height of a dog consists of a perpendicular line from the floor to the top of the shoulder or withers. This point at the top of the shoulders is where the neck appears to meet the shoulders. The dog should be posed in a natural stance with its legs directly under him and not leaning forward or backward. Dogs shall be measured on the ground. The handler/owner may assist the Judge in posing the dog and steadying him. The actual measuring will be done by the Judge in a Bench Show. The Judge's decision is final for the show he is judging.

If either a male or female is over or under the official UKC height standard, as outlined in the dogs' specific breed standard, it is to be considered an Eliminating Fault. A dog with an Eliminating Fault is not to be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, nor are they to be reported to UKC.

The dog should not be asked to leave the bench if it is over or under the height limit. Dogs in the Puppy Class are not to be eliminated for being under the minimum height requirement for their breed standard.

### Disqualification

If a Judge determines a dog to have a Disqualification, as listed in the official breed standard for that breed, that dog must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and the judge must submit to UKC the dog's name, UKC number and description of the Disqualification along with the show report.

## Bench Shows

### UKC® Coonhound Bench Show Rules

Revised January 1, 2020

1. Only those dogs permanently registered by UKC may compete in a UKC Licensed Bench Show. All UKC licensed Coonhound Bench Shows must be open to all of the seven coonhound breeds.
2. UKC Licensed shows MUST appear in the "Upcoming UKC Licensed Events" listing in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* or UKC website in order for the event to be approved and Championship points awarded.
3. No Bench Show entries are to be taken after the advertised deadline for any reason. The show shall start as soon as possible after the advertised deadline.
4. Unless previously approved by UKC, only one UKC Licensed Bench Show Judge shall judge a UKC Licensed Bench Show. A panel of Judges cannot be used. Judges shall have read and be familiar with "UKC Bench Show Procedures." The Judge will follow the rules and regulations covering the show, and sign the official UKC report for show winners and award Championship points. Judge must sign report immediately following show.
5. The Judge's decision is final. Any exhibitor may question the Judge concerning their decision after the completion of the class in which the exhibitor's dog is entered. Such questions shall be presented in a sportsmanlike manner.
6. A UKC recognized Bench Show Champion or Grand Champion may not compete in open competition once they have received their Championship or Grand Championship Degree. Champions may compete in the Champion of Champions class only. Grand Champions may compete in the Grand Champions class only.
7. The Judge shall have the right to disqualify any owner or handler for misconduct, or any dog for growling, snapping or fighting. If a dog is disqualified for growling, snapping or fighting, it must be reported and sent along with the Bench Show Report to UKC. Detailed policy may be found in the section "Scratched for Fighting".
9. Any person found guilty of intimidating, threatening or injuring a Bench Show participant, Judge, club officer or UKC representative will be barred from any UKC licensed event. Details on this particular rule can be found in the section on "Misconduct and Discipline".
10. Any person found administering or having administered unapproved drugs to any dog will be barred indefinitely from registering dogs and participating in UKC events. Club or association may require blood testing of any dog by a licensed veterinarian.
11. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, firearms or unapproved drugs will be allowed on the grounds or while participating in the show or in the buildings the day of a UKC licensed event.
12. A Judge has the right to request that a handler

or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.

13. Handlers are responsible for their conduct and personal appearance.

14. If a dog is shown in the wrong class, no Championship points will be awarded. It is the responsibility of the handler to see that their dog has been entered and shown in the correct class.

15. Dogs must be benched. The bench on which the dogs shall be shown must be two (2) feet high and eighteen (18) inches wide with the top covered with indoor/outdoor carpeting or some similar non-slip surface. Individual benches of a minimum length of 44 inches are recommended. If the benches do not meet these standards, the Judge shall still allow the show to be held, but should instruct the club to correct the problem and notify UKC that the benches do not meet the standards.

16. A Bench Show Report shall be filled out and signed by the Bench Show Judge. One copy shall be retained by the club for one year, and one copy sent to UKC. The Judge is responsible for the report being accurate, neat and properly filled out, showing the complete names of the dogs, correct UKC registration numbers, and owners name. The United Kennel Club accepts the report of each show as an accurate and true report of the Bench Show.

17. The club sponsoring the show will forward with the report the appropriate recording fee for each dog entered in the Bench Show. Reports must be submitted to UKC within ten (10) days of the event or a penalty charge of \$20 will be made. An additional charge of \$20 per month will be made for reports that are 30 days past due.

18. The following is NOT allowed:

- a. Dyeing or in any manner changing a dog's hair color.
- b. Altering of nose, eye or lip pigment color.
- c. Surgery to cover a genetic or structural fault, such as ears, eyes, muscular or skeletal.
- d. Grooming, grooming tools, spray bottles or wiping cloths are not allowed in the ring.

NOTE: If the show is held outside on an extremely hot day, a handler may spray water in the dog's mouth to cool the dog down. This can only be done if the Judge approves prior to the dogs entering the show ring.

19. No bait, clickers or toys allowed in show ring.

20. Working dogs are not to be penalized for scars or injuries caused by hunting.

21. Female dogs in season shall not be shown.

22. A male shall be disqualified if monorchid or cryptorchid (lacking two normal, descended testicles in the scrotum).

23. A dog will be disqualified if it is determined to be deaf or blind.

24. Dog will be disqualified if overshot or undershot. Overshot or undershot is defined as dog having visible gap between upper and lower teeth.

25. Dogs must be evaluated both while gaited and shown on the bench. In order to properly evaluate the coonhound, the dog must be compared to the standard on the bench to assess its conformation and gaited to determine the efficiency and athleticism of the dog's locomotion.

## UKC® Coonhound Bench Show Judges Authority and Responsibilities

*Revised January 1, 2020*

### AUTHORITY

1. The Judge is in charge of the ring, and his or her decision is final.
2. Judge may disqualify any dog for unsportsmanlike actions by the handler.
3. Judge has the right to withhold an award and/or UKC Championship points if, in their opinion, the dog is not of sufficient quality or deserving of a title.
4. A Judge may not be called upon to fault any dog after the show is over and winners are announced. They have the right to refuse.
5. Judge has the right to split or divide classes when considered necessary.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Judge must hold a current UKC Judge's license and should have current Judge's card in their possession at the time of the show.
2. Once a Bench Show Judge is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, a license to judge Bench Shows is a privilege and may be revoked by UKC at any time.
3. Neither UKC Judges nor apprentice Judges are to enter their dogs in any UKC Licensed Bench Show that they are judging in whole or in part. Their dogs cannot be entered by a handler. Nor can any member of a Judge's or apprentice Judge's immediate family show under that Judge. The spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, brother or sister, grandchild, in-law of a person is considered an immediate family member.
4. A UKC Judge is responsible for their own conduct and appearance, which should always be befitting a Judge.
5. A newly approved Judge cannot have an apprentice serve under them until they have judged at least three shows.
6. No more than one (1) apprentice can serve under a Judge at a show.
7. UKC Judges are to keep up-to-date on any changes in the breed standards.
8. Judge must see that all handlers walk or gait dogs. Dog must be gaited for Judge to determine any weaknesses in the locomotion of the dog. Dogs must be evaluated on the bench to determine to what degree the dog conforms to the breed standard.
9. Judge shall have handler show the dog's bite to him. For health considerations the judge will not open the dog's mouth.
10. Judge must physically check all dog's bone structure

and conformation.

11. Judge will remove from the bench any female dog in season.

12. A Judge shall give equal time in examining each dog they are judging. Every dog warrants a Judge's complete inspection.

13. Judge shall not ask individual handling dog any questions regarding ownership, breeder, pedigree etc.

14. A Judge shall not remove an "off" standard dog from the bench. If a Judge determines a dog to have a disqualifying fault, he must submit to UKC the dog's name, UKC number and description of the fault along with the show report.

15. Judge shall not carry on conversations with spectators while show is in progress.

16. A judge's comments regarding their selection should reflect the positive features of the dog they selected, opposed to negative comments towards a dog they did not select.

17. The Judge must accurately report their decisions to the recording secretary.

18. The Judge must complete and sign the Official Show Report Forms for Championship points immediately following the show.

19. The Judge must never sign blank show report forms or receipts.

## Show Spectators, Owners and Handlers

*Revised January 1, 2020*

Spectators and/or handlers must remain away from the show ring at all times and dogs must be kept away from the show ring until that dog is called for showing.

It is the sole responsibility of the handler or owner to have his dog at ringside at the time his class is called for judging. The club or the United Kennel Club have no responsibility or obligation to locate dogs that are not brought into the ring when required.

Owners, handlers and spectators may not interfere with the Judge in any way during the judging of a show.

A Judge may disqualify any dog for fighting or attempting to bite another dog or person. The Judge may disqualify an exhibitor for any unsportsmanlike action.

A Judge has the right to request that a handler or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.

## UKC® Coonhound Bench Show Procedures (A Guideline for Judges)

To standardize the procedures of a Bench Show and to avoid inconsistencies and errors, the following procedure has been provided.

When the Bench Show Judge arrives at the club grounds, he/she should remind each person taking entries for the bench show of the requirements for accepting entries. Remember, the UKC Registration Certificate or UKC Easy Entry™ Card must be presented. Otherwise, see

the "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events" section of this rulebook. The judge is responsible for all Entry rules being enforced. Failure to enforce and follow those rules as written may result in their license being revoked.

No entries shall be taken after the published closing time. There are no exceptions. Championship points or wins will not be honored if either of these rules are violated.

The Judge is responsible for the rules being enforced and the correct information being sent to United Kennel Club.

Following is the procedure and sequence of judging UKC Licensed Bench Shows:

### AMERICAN BLACK & TAN COONHOUND

- A. (1) Judge male Puppy Class (6 mos. to 1 yr.)
  - (2) Judge male Junior Class (1 yr. & under 2 yrs.)
  - (3) Judge male Senior Class (2 yrs. & older)
  - (4) Call the winner of each male Black & Tan class back for judging. The winner of this judging is awarded the Best Male of Breed.
- B. (1) Judge female Puppy Class (6 mos. to 1 yr.)
  - (2) Judge female Junior Class (1 yr & under 2 yrs.)
  - (3) Judge female Senior Class (2 yrs. & older)
  - (4) all the winners of each female Black & Tan class back for judging. The winner of this judging is awarded the Best Female of Breed.

Follow the same sequence for each of the other six breeds in alphabetical sequence.

American Leopard Hound, Bluetick, English, Plott, Redbone, Treeing Walker

When all Best of Breed winners have been determined, all Best Male of Breed winners are brought back and judged together. The winner is awarded Best Male of Show. Then all Best Female of Breed winners are brought back and judged together to determine the Best Female of Show.

Once these are determined, the Champion of Champions class is held. In the Champion of Champions class, males and females are shown separately. The winner of each sex is declared a winner of the Champion of Champions class. If this category is large and the Judge decides to judge the dogs by breed, he may do so. They would then have one or more of each breed to judge for the Best Champion.

The Grand Show Champions class is judged next. Males and females are shown separately.

The show is not to be interrupted for any other activity, unless it is a large show and the Judge requests a rest break.

## Requirements and Procedures for Becoming a UKC® Licensed Bench Show Judge

Persons interested in becoming UKC Licensed Bench Show Judges should: 1) complete the application and test which may be obtained at their local club or UKC; 2) Application and test is then returned by applicant to UKC, along with Application Fee. If applicant passes application

and test, they will then be sent three apprentice forms.

1. The applicants must be known for their honesty, integrity, impartiality and their interest in the improvement of the coonhound breeds. The Judge's personal appearance and habits should be above reproach and befitting a UKC licensed Bench Show Judge.
2. Applicants shall have reached their twenty-first (21st) birthday before applying to UKC to become a UKC Licensed Show Judge and must have a minimum of three years' experience handling dogs.
3. Applicants should be at least a high school graduate or equivalent.
4. Applicants must know the Official UKC Show Rules.
5. Applicants must be thoroughly familiar with each of the Official UKC Coonhound Breed Standards.
6. The applicants must know and understand the anatomy of the dogs they are judging including how to properly judge the dogs' gait.
7. Applicants must be members of an approved club and must be recommended in writing by officers of the club. At least three (3) different officers of the club must sign the UKC application form.
8. Applicants must serve as an apprentice Judge under three (3) different UKC Licensed Judges and be recommended by them. Only one apprentice may serve under a licensed Bench Show Judge at an event.
9. The applicants must understand that they are at all times to judge the dog and not be influenced by who the owner or handler is.
10. The applicants must be willing to accept the responsibilities of discussing their decisions, if asked to do so by the handler, prior to the next class being shown.
11. No applicant for a UKC Show Judges License will be denied on basis of religion, race, color, national origin or sex.
12. The Judge's application fee is non-refundable. Once a Bench Show Judge is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UKC at any time.
13. All licenses for UKC Show Judges shall be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of United Kennel Club.

## UKC® Point System for the Top Ten Bench Show Dogs

*Revised January 1, 2020*

Top Ten points may be earned from November 1 through October 31 each year. The Top Ten dogs of each breed will be eligible for the Top Ten Invitational at the UKC Winter Classic. A Preliminary Round will have all eligible dogs of each breed show against each other, regardless of sex. Each breed winner will move on to a Final Round where one dog is selected as the Overall Top Ten UKC Bench Show Champion. UKC will tabulate and publish the Top Ten

rankings. The rankings will be published in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* and on [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com) on a regular basis.

The point system is based on the number of dogs defeated and the number of dogs shown as reported on the Official Bench Show Report. One point will be deducted from the total of dogs shown in the regular classes as the winning dog is included in that total but did not defeat itself.

- (1) The winner of the Best Male of Show will be awarded one point for all males defeated in the classes.
- (2) The winner of the Best Female of Show will be awarded one point for all females defeated in the classes.
- (3) The winner of the Champions of Champion Male category will be awarded three points for all males defeated in the Champion class.
- (4) The winner of the Champions of Champion Female category will be awarded three points for all females defeated in the Champion class.
- (5) The winner of the Grand Champion Male category will be awarded four points for all males defeated in the Grand Champion class. Two (2) points will be awarded for dogs shown without competition (in the Grand Champion category only).
- (6) The winner of the Grand Champion Female category will be awarded four points for all females defeated in the Grand Champion class. Two (2) points will be awarded for dogs shown without competition (in the Grand Champion category only).

The reason for increasing the number of points earned per category is to equalize the points earned over a year. The points carry from category to category. If your dog was a Show Champion at the beginning of the year, and finished to a Grand Show Champion, those points would carry on with the dog as it competed in the Grand Champion class.

Points will not be recorded after a dog has completed the requirements for a particular category (i.e. — Champion or Grand Champion). The dog can continue to show in that category until notified by UKC, but will not earn any additional points.

Points may be withheld if it is determined that: 1) owners refuse to show at the next level after completing championship requirements but before receiving UKC notification; or 2) non-competitive dogs are being entered for the purpose of padding points.

**Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.**

# Nite Hunts

## Official Nite Hunt Honor Rules

Effective January 1, 2020

\* Indicates a definition found at the end of the Nite Hunt Honor Rules

In addition to the rules on the scorecard, the Official UKC Coonhound Rulebook and the most recent Coonhound Advisor columns in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* and on the UKC website, contain additional rules, statements of policies and interpretations of UKC rules pertaining to the conducting of UKC events. All event activities, rules, policy applications and interpretations are subject to the final decision by UKC in its sole judgment and discretion.

All casts must be drawn publicly. Owners having multiple entries will have dogs drawn to separate casts if possible. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, firearms or illegal drugs will be allowed on the grounds or while participating in a UKC licensed event, or in the buildings the day of a UKC licensed event. Participants 13 years of age and under entering a nite hunt must be accompanied by an adult other than the cast members they draw.

### 1. DEADLINES

All deadlines must be strictly enforced; no exceptions.

- (a) No entries will be accepted after the UKC listed entry deadline.
- (b) No scorecards will be accepted after the posted deadline to return scorecards.
- (c) Deadline may only be extended if lone handler is required to go to MOH/HD for a non-hunting judge to finish cast.
- (d) An Appeal must be requested and filed immediately following the panel's ruling, while panel is still assembled.

### 2. POINT SYSTEM

- (a) **Strike Points:** 100 points for dog that is declared struck first; 75 points second; 50 points third; 25 points fourth. After first minute each time dog is released, dog must be declared struck on or before the third bark. For dog not declared struck on third bark on first offense; judge shall issue warning and ask for call. Dog must be declared struck on next bark. Otherwise; if not declared struck on next bark, dog to be minused available strike position and assigned that position on scorecard. On second offense; judge shall minus the available strike points and ask for a call on next bark. Otherwise; dog shall be scratched if not declared struck on next bark. On third offense; the dog is scratched.
- (b) **Babbling:** Dog(s) declared struck and determined to be babbling\* shall be minused on strike. If there is any question when a hunting judge is used, the cast must vote immediately. It takes a majority of cast vote to minus. A tied vote results in deleted strike points.

- (c) **Tree Points:** 125 points for dog declared treed first; 75 points second; 50 points third; 25 points fourth. Note: Any dog(s) declared treed on the same tree two minutes after the first dog was declared treed, shall receive 25 tree points. Dogs not opening on trail must be declared struck before a tree call may be accepted.

- (d) **Other:** Dog must open and be heard opening when declared struck or treed. Otherwise, call may not be accepted. Points may be split for position when called positions cannot be determined. A handler calling the wrong dog on first offense results in a warning issued and no points assigned. On second offense, the available position is minused. On third offense, dog is scratched.

### 3. POINTS WILL BE PLUS

- (a) When dogs strike and tree and coon is seen, during shining time only, by a non-hunting Judge; or by a majority of the cast when hunting Judge is used.
- (b) When dog is declared struck and treed and coon is seen other than in tree, dog declared treed to receive strike and tree points. Dogs not declared treed, strike points only.
- (c) If dog(s) catches coon, strike points only.
- (d) One set of strike points in case of split tree, and each will be counted as separate trees for tree points.
- (e) Dog(s) that are shut out\* must still be declared struck. They are eligible for tree points if they are declared treed within the three minutes. If they are at tree shut out\* on when judge arrives, strike points are deleted. For all other situations they are accountable for their strike points.

### 4. POINTS WILL BE MINUS

#### Strike Minus:

- (a) When a dog quits a track that is being worked and comes in to cast or to tree. Exception: 5(b)
- (b) If none of the declared struck dogs open within 8 minutes.
- (c) For calling dogs off trail.
- (d) If dog declared treed; after three minutes has elapsed no additional dog can be declared treed at that particular tree. Dog(s) treeing but not declared treed when judge arrives receives minus strike points if coon is seen.

#### Tree Minus:

- (e) When dogs tree and (1) a non-hunting Judge or (2) a majority of the cast when hunting Judge is used, can plainly see no coon to be there, strike and tree points are minused.
- (f) After a dog is declared treed, at least one of the dogs declared treed must bark at least once every two minutes until cast arrives at the tree, or all dogs

declared treed at that tree will be minused and the tree will be open again.

- (g) When a dog that is declared treed leaves that tree the dogs tree points are minused. If dog returns to tree within the three minutes, he will receive the next available position on tree, unless all dogs have been declared treed. After two minutes of the first dog being declared treed, the only tree position available is 25.
- (h) Dogs treeing but not declared treed, when Judge arrives, will be assigned and minused 25 tree points on off game or slick tree. Dogs shut-out\* on strike on slick tree or off game will receive minus tree points only. Refer to Rule 6 (f) for Champion Division casts and off game.
- (i) Any dogs declared treed after three minutes expires and tree is closed; call will be accepted as a split tree. If dog is on closed tree when judge arrives, strike and tree points are scored as dog left separate split tree and is now considered *treeing but not declared treed* on this particular tree.

#### Other:

- (j) In Registered Category for running, treeing or molesting off game (off game must be seen). In the event the off game is a squirrel seen in a tree and 2) the tree is an obvious den tree, refer to Rule 5(d). Birds are not considered off game.

### 5. CIRCLED AND DELETED POINTS

#### Circle points:

- (a) When dog strikes and trees on a tree or a hole in the ground where there could be a coon, yet Judge does not see coon and no off game is seen. NOTE: In case of running coon in a hole or place of refuge other than a tree, handler may call dog treed. However, if not called treed, cast may proceed to general area, and track can be considered finished if dogs, by actions either tree barking or otherwise, show to the satisfaction of the Judge, coon to be there. One dog must show end of trail. For dogs declared treed in a hole or tile, see Rule 3(b) or 4(g), if applicable.
- (b) No dog to receive minus points for coming into tree after Judge arrives unless a coon is seen and the dogs treeing are awarded plus points.
- (c) If half the cast votes to plus and half the cast votes to circle a tree.
- (d) If a squirrel is seen on a den tree (must have visible hole large enough for a coon to enter into) or tree has a nest, or a place of refuge where a coon could be hidden.

#### Delete points:

- (e) If half the cast votes to circle and half the cast votes to minus a tree.

- (f) If dogs are trailing when time is out.
- (g) If Judge has to call time out in accordance with Rule 7.
- (h) When dog trees on a tree or coon previously scored. (Cast may go to tree without dogs being declared treed, if majority of cast agree, when hunting Judges are used.)
- (i) When dog that is shut out\* comes into tree shut out on. Refer to 3(e).

### 6. SCRATCHING OFFENSES

#### Dog Related Offense:

- (a) If a dog has accumulated a total of 400 minus.
- (b) For fighting or attempting to fight\*, when off-leash during the hunt, including any time-out periods. When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved. Withdrawing to avoid dog being reported for fighting is not permitted.
- (c) Failing to make an attempt to hunt within any 15 consecutive scorecard minutes.
- (d) Bitches smelling strong enough to attract dogs, or a dog that is just bad to bother\* other dogs
- (e) For delaying completion of cast for one hour after time out is called during the hunt in accordance with Rule 7.
- (f) In Champion Division casts; for running, treeing or molesting off game (off game must be seen) during hunting time including any time out periods prior to the expiration of hunt time (exception 5b). In the event the off game is a squirrel seen in a tree and 2) the tree is an obvious den tree, refer to Rule 5(d). Birds are not considered off game.
- (g) For running or molesting livestock.
- (h) For hunting over or under the advertised hunt time.

#### Handler Related Offense:

- (i) For use of any device used to control dog prior to cast completing hunt time.
- (j) If handler hollers at or physically abuses the dog.
- (k) If handler fails to declare treed a dog obviously treeing (Judge's decision) for a period of five minutes. Dog may be declared treed while five is running but not after the five has expired. Judge must verify dog to be at a tree before it can be scratched. If the cast is in the process of shining a separate tree time shall be canceled or not be applied to another dog.
- (l) If handler fails to return to MOH/HD after cast becomes separated. Time period allotted is determined by MOH/HD.
- (m) For climbing or cutting trees or disturbing a place of refuge.
- (n) For intentionally killing coon or other game.
- (o) For searching tree before the start of shining time.
- (p) For failure to stay with the cast unless given

permission to leave.

- (q) For encouraging, discouraging or physically abusing a dog. Praising a handled dog is not considered encouraging.
- (r) For use of scoring aids other than light or mechanical squallers. Laser pointer light is permitted.
- (s) Handler's dog will be scratched for rule violations by their spectators.
- (t) If handler displays Unsportsmanlike Conduct\* towards any individual on club grounds or during the hunt.
- (u) If scorecard lacks handler's signature or if event official cannot satisfactorily determine accurate score, dog(s) affected will be scratched. Refer to Rule 12 (c), if applicable.

## 7. TIME OUTS

Judge or majority of cast if hunting Judge is used, may call time out in accordance with the following:

- (a) When dogs are getting on highway, trail onto posted land or trail into a place where there is danger to dogs or hunters.
- (b) If dogs get with another group of dogs.
- (c) In case of accident or sickness.
- (d) When dog(s) are trailing out of hearing in different directions.
- (e) After scoring dog(s) on tree and all remaining dogs are either on leash or declared treed, and cast decides to move to new location after all trees are scored, time out may be called walking to remaining trees with scored dogs on leash. Hunt time shall be back in during shining time of each tree. If dog leaves tree, time shall be called back in and dogs on leash recast.

## 8. HANDLERS

- (a) It is the handler's responsibility to tell Judge when dog opens and when dog trees.
- (b) It is the handler's responsibility to check their score and make sure all points are accurate before signing scorecard.
- (c) Any handler unable to complete hunt must pick up his dog, or Judge to give permission for another handler to complete hunt. Although dog is scratched or withdrawn, the handler is encouraged to stay with the cast and retains all voting privileges, unless handler is scratched for unsportsmanlike conduct.
- (d) If handler leaves cast, they should note hunt time used, note other dogs' scores, and include their initials in the right margin of the scorecard.
- (e) If only one handler remains, handler must return to MOH/HD for a non-hunting judge.
- (f) Relaying any type of electronic messaging with reference to scores, that is deemed detrimental to the hunt, may result in suspension.

## 9. JUDGES

- (a) Judges are picked by the host clubs because they believe them to be honest and capable of keeping score just as it is given to them by handlers. They will show no favors to any dog or hunter and will inform handlers of score and time recorded, if requested. Authority of the Judge begins when he is officially designated and receives the scorecard. The judge shall be in control of the cast.
- (b) Club will have the option of hunting or non-hunting Judges on all casts for each division. A non-hunting Judge may be assigned to any cast at the discretion of MOH/HD and/or club officials.
- (c) Judge must maintain a pace attainable by all members of cast.
- (d) Judge will be first to arrive at tree.
- (e) Even though their dog is withdrawn or scratched, they shall continue to judge the cast. If the judge is unable to complete their duties for the duration of the hunt due to other unforeseen circumstances, only then may they assign another qualified handler in the cast to finish judging the cast.

## 10. SPECTATORS

- (a) Two spectators per handler will be allowed on all casts.
- (b) Spectators may not shine tree unless all handlers in cast agree. This decision shall be made at start of hunt and applies for duration of hunt time.
- (c) Spectators may not be included in the majority required to score trees or enter discussions pertaining to the scoring of dogs.
- (d) Spectators are otherwise held to the same rules and conduct as handlers.

## 11. SCORING DOGS

- (a) **Prior To Arriving at Tree.** Scorecards to be carried by Judge (or non-hunting scorekeeper if all cast members agree) and must be scored in plain view of all. Dog must hold the tree for three (3) minutes, unless all dogs in cast are declared treed, on leash, or hunting time has expired. If one dog in cast, or one dog remaining in cast, dog must hold tree for three (3) minutes. Dogs declared treed within hunting time are eligible for scoring. If at all possible be at the tree within three (3) minutes. If handlers are so far from tree that it will take more than three (3) minutes to get to tree, they are to start walking toward tree, but stopping periodically to let other handlers see if their dog is treeing. Judge is not to let any handler keep holding him away from tree just to let dog get to tree after three (3) minutes are up.
- (b) **After Arriving at Tree.** After three (3) minutes, first dog's tree may be scored. Dog should not

be minused tree points if he comes back a short distance to meet handler if dog goes back in and trees satisfactorily. Dogs at tree must be leashed. Eight minutes of hunting time may be used to shine trees. Individual holding first tree shall be granted first two minutes to shine alone, if requested.

(c) **Split Trees.** Where dogs split up, Judge will go with handler to the dog that trees first. If a split tree is obvious (Judge's decision), split tree will be assigned. Separate time must be kept on each tree unless all dogs are declared treed. Judge shall give handler permission to handle dog on split tree unless cast is in process of shining a tree. After the split dog is handled, handler shall return to cast. If all dogs are declared treed and handled AND cast needs to move to new location after scoring all trees, trees may be scored in most convenient order (refer to 7(e) and 11(d) if applicable). Otherwise, trees must always be scored in the order dogs were declared treed.

(d) **Recasting.** After being scored, dog shall not be released until another dog struck in on track, or on tree, opens. If no other dog is declared struck, scored dog may be released immediately after scoring tree. However, if another dog in cast is declared treed, handler(s) has the option to recast or keep scored dog on leash. Handler's opting to keep dog on leash may not recast dog until next opportunity arises (next tree is scored or dog leaves tree). If all remaining dogs in cast are declared treed and cast decides they need to move to a new location after all dogs are scored, all scored dogs shall remain on leash and time out shall be called while walking to split trees. Hunt time shall be called back in during shining time only. Otherwise, scored dog may be recast even if all remaining dogs are declared treed. Once a position has been scored it becomes available again. A dog declared struck after the recast, receives the next available strike position. A dog cannot be struck in over a position that is being held except when a dog holds his strike position for one hour. In that case, all strike positions will be open to other dogs. The strike position previously held by dog(s) on leash is not available until dog is recast. Multiple dogs may occupy fourth strike position.

## 12. SCORECARDS

- (a) Scorecards must be completed in the woods, and no changes can be made later except where a question arises and is noted in the woods.
- (b) Handler's signature verifies hunting time and scores are correct. Any protest relative to time or scores shall be noted with a question mark.

- (c) Any handler failing to sign the scorecard in the woods may have the opportunity to sign upon returning the scorecard to, and in view of, the MOH/HD.

## 13. TIES

All ties to be broken for placement by comparing scores in the following order:

- (a) Dog that has the least number of minus points.
- (b) If still a tie, dog that has the most plus tree points.
- (c) If still a tie, dog that has the most plus strike points.
- (d) If still a tie, dog that has the most circled tree points.
- (e) If still a tie, dog that has the most circled strike points.
- (f) If still a tie, dogs involved will hunt in one-hour intervals until tie is broken or flip a coin if all parties agree.

## 14. QUESTIONING A JUDGE

(a) Non-Hunting Judge Cast: The decision of a non-hunting Judge may only be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made. The non-hunting Judge's decision cannot be overturned in the field. It may be scored with a question mark (?) and reviewed by the MOH/panel. A decision made by a non-hunting Judge may only be overturned by the MOH/panel.

(b) Hunting Judge Cast: The following procedure must be followed when using Hunting judges on a cast, regardless of category.

1. The Hunting Judge has complete authority and will be responsible for scoring all situations.
2. Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or a call that should have been made but wasn't, that handler may ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time.
3. Each handler must vote, or their dog will be scratched. It takes a majority vote to overturn judge's decision. Any handler that is not satisfied with the outcome retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the card and present his question to the MOH/panel.
4. Situations not questioned and notated at the time judge's decision is made, will not be considered.

## 15. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

### Locating Devices:

The handheld of locating only devices may be carried by the handler. Device may be used during the hunt as outlined in current Locating Device Rules. Locating Device Rules are provided in the host clubs Event Packet and are also available on UKC's website. Lighted collars are allowed.

### Controlling Devices:

Any handheld device capable of controlling a dog (stimulating or toning) must be left in vehicle and may not be used by handler or spectators until dog wearing device is scratched and all other dogs are recovered for re-casting.

### \*16. DEFINITIONS

**Attempting to Fight:** 1) Showing aggressive behavior and 2) interfering with another dog(s) during the authority of the Judge.

**Babbling:** When a dog opens three times or has been struck where no track is evident.

**Bother:** Displaying breeding-type behavior.

**Shut-out:** When a dog has not been declared struck before the first dog has been declared treed. Dog is shut out only if it trees on tree it was shut out on. Otherwise, strike points remain live.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** Including but not limited to; trying to stir trouble, drinking, continuously argumentative, threatening or intimidating, or any actions that reflect negatively on the UKC or host club.

*© Copyright 2020 by United Kennel Club. All Rights Reserved. (ALL LICENSES for UKC LICENSED Events shall be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of United Kennel Club.)*

**Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.**

**PARTICIPANTS 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER ENTERING A NITE HUNT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT OTHER THAN CAST MEMBERS THEY DRAW.**

**ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, FIREARMS, OR ILLEGAL DRUGS WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE HUNT OR IN THE BUILDINGS THE DAY OF A UKC LICENSED EVENT.**

---

## Panel and Appeal Procedure for Situations Happening During a UKC® Licensed Nite Hunt

*Revised January 1, 2020*

This procedure applies for all situations arising during the time that the Judge's authority is in effect. Authority of the Judge begins when he is officially designated and receives the scorecard. The authority of the Judge ceases when the scorecard is turned in to the Master of Hounds. The Coonhound Advisor column appearing in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* provides official interpretations of UKC Rules and Policies.

The Appeal Procedure does not apply to the Zones or Finals of the UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Championship. The Master of Hounds' decision will be final in all situations pertaining to activities during the actual hunt.

### The following steps must be followed:

**STEP 1.** Attempt to resolve the question with the licensed Master of Hounds, the handler raising the question, the Judge of the cast and the other members of the cast that are available. The Master of Hounds will make a decision based upon the statement of the case provided by the handler, Judge and the other members of the cast. No complaints will be considered by the Master of Hounds after a period of thirty (30) minutes has elapsed from the time that the scorecard has been turned in.

**STEP 2.** If the question is not resolved at Step 1, request that a Panel be formed. A Panel Fee of \$10 must accompany the request. The MOH/HD will then assemble a panel of three responsible, impartial individuals who are familiar with UKC policies and procedures. (This is the first step taken when using the Hunt Director Format.) If Panel rules with handler, fee will be refunded; if they disagree, the Panel fee will be retained by the Host Club. The Panel meeting must be held within one (1) hour after the deadline for the return of scorecards.

**STEP 3.** The Panel will hear all sides. At the conclusion of all testimony the Panel will make a ruling. The Event Report shall reflect the Panel's decision.

**STEP 4.** If the question is not resolved at Step 3 a handler must immediately request a UKC Appeal Form while the Panel is still assembled. The form must be filled out by the handlers on the cast, the members of the Panel and the MOH/HD. A fee of \$20 must accompany the appeal when sent to UKC. The Appeal Form must be included with the Event Report mailed to UKC. Additionally, the Panel MUST complete the Panel Meeting Results Form when an Appeal to UKC is filed and include it with the Event Report that is submitted to UKC.

**STEP 5.** UKC will investigate the matter and make a final ruling. If UKC supports the individual filing the appeal, the fee will be refunded. A written statement reflecting the final ruling will be mailed to those involved. UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgment and discretion, the right to make corrections it deems necessary.

### Panel Responsibilities

A panel of qualified event participants needs to be formed in two situations. 1) in the event a handler is not satisfied with the MOH ruling in a MOH Format event and; 2) when a question is placed on the card in a HD Format event. Complaint panels should consist of three individuals who are current on all Nite Hunt rules and policies. They may or may not be club members,

with primary concern going towards finding individuals that are knowledgeable, honest and impartial. A panel must be formed of individuals that can remain totally objective in concerns to cast members and dogs on the cast in question. Individuals who have a dog in contention to place in the event should not be used on a panel. The panel will hear all viewpoints of cast members and come to a consensus decision regarding the final scoring of the cast. Should a panel's decision support the complainant, the \$10 will be refunded. Should the panel's decision go against the complainant, the \$10 will be forwarded to UKC to deposit in the Youth Fund.

---

## Hunting/Non-Hunting Judges Clarification

Clubs have the option to use non-hunting judges for any or all categories. One or the other must be used on all casts within a given division.

### Non-Hunting Judges

1. The Non-Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for making all decisions, including the scoring of all trees, calling time out and whether or not a tree has been previously scored.

2. The decision of the Non-Hunting Judge may be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made, or a call that is not being made. It will be scored with a question mark (?) and taken to the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director after the hunt is over, unless it involves a dog being scratched from the hunt. The Non-Hunting Judge's decision cannot be overturned in the field by a majority vote of cast members.

### Hunting Judges

The following procedure must be followed when using Hunting Judges:

1. The host club must designate a Hunting Judge for each cast from the entries received (see procedure for selecting hunting judges under MOH/HD Guidelines (Drawing Casts)).

2. The Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for scoring all situations with exception to three situations only.

The following three situations go directly to a majority of the cast vote:

a. Scoring a tree (plus, minus, or circle). This does not include; 1) the decision on whether or not the coon could cross out to an adjoining tree or scoring multiple trees as one tree or; 2) whether the game seen is a coon or off-game. The Hunting Judge makes those decisions, but they may be questioned by a handler as outlined below (5).

b. Calling time out. See Rule 7 of the Nite Hunt Honor Rules.

c. Whether or not dogs are treed on a previously scored tree.

3. Any cast members, though scratched, retain all voting privileges.

4. If only one dog remains in the hunt, other cast members are encouraged to stay with cast. If a Hunting Judge scratches their dog they are encouraged to stay with the cast and continue to judge the duration of the hunt as designated by the club. However, they may designate another qualified member of the cast to complete the hunt as Hunting Judge, if needed. If only one cast member remains, handler must return to Master of Hounds/Hunt Director for a Non-Hunting Judge to complete cast. Deadline may be extended, if necessary, for this cast only.

5. Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or a call that should have been made but wasn't, that handler may ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time.

6. Majority of cast rules. Each handler must vote or their dog will be scratched. If majority decision is not reached, the call stands as it was scored by the Judge. Any handler that is not satisfied with the majority of cast decision retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the card and present his question to the MOH/HD Panel.

---

## Veterans Casts

*Revised January 1, 2020*

Individuals age 55 or older, are entitled to participate in Veterans Casts at club, state association and breed association level UKC Licensed Nite Hunts. Veterans Casts will not be run at UKC Slam Events, any advanced entry events including Autumn Oaks, the UKC Winter Classic, or any portion of the UKC World Championship including R.Q.E.'s, the Zone Semifinals or the Finals.

At the individual's option, they may be drawn into a Veterans Cast under the following rules:

- Proof of age; driver's license, hunting license, birth certificate, etc. must be presented to entry takers.

- A minimum of three (3) individuals, age 55 or older, must participate in the same category in order for a Veterans Cast to be drawn. Once the minimum requirement has been met, remaining entries will be drawn accordingly. If the total entry within the category does not exceed four dogs, then all four dogs will compete in the same cast.

- The score of the Veterans Cast(s) will compete with the scores of all other casts for placement in the UKC Licensed Nite Hunt.

- Individuals, age 55 or older, do not have to compete in the Veterans Cast. They may choose to compete in the all-age casts.

- Veterans Casts will compete under the same UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules as do all other casts in their division, with no exceptions.

## Important Announcement Concerning the Use of Hearing Devices in UKC® Licensed Nite Hunts

Effective January 1, 1996, individuals who have been professionally diagnosed as being hearing-impaired may utilize an auxiliary hearing device in UKC licensed Nite Hunts. Common types of auxiliary devices are the Bionic Ear, Hound Sounder and Action Ear. These devices are electronic sound amplifying devices.

UKC policy has always been such as to permit the use of normal hearing aids of the type prescribed by physicians for everyday use by individuals with hearing problems.

Procedure for obtaining permission to use an auxiliary hearing device:

- Obtain a statement, signed by a licensed physician on his or her official stationery, indicating the need for such auxiliary hearing device in order to improve impaired hearing.

- Submit the statement to UKC Coonhound/Beagle Field Operations. Upon receipt of the doctor's statement, UKC will issue a Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device to the individual. Note: Device may only be used by the actual handler of the dog, not a backup handler or spectator.

- The individual must submit the Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device for inspection by the Entry Takers and to the Judge of the cast as proof of permission to use the Auxiliary Hearing Device. The Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device must be on official UKC stationery. Club officials must not accept any other form of permission.

- Individuals who (1) fraudulently obtain the physician's statement, (2) fraudulently utilize the Auxiliary Hearing Device or (3) use the Auxiliary Hearing Device without following the steps of this procedure, will be dealt with under the Inherent Rights and Powers of UKC.

Undue violations or abuses of this policy will result in resumption of the former policy which permits the use of "normal" hearing aids only.

### Cast Breakdown Information

All dogs must have a total plus score and hunt the entire hunt, to be considered a cast winner. This is to apply even if only one dog is present to be entered in any category. A cast with only one dog entered must be judged by a non-hunting judge. A Nite Champion or Grand Nite Champion cannot hunt in open competition. They must hunt in own class, not lower.

### Hunt Cast Breakdown

# OF DOGS	DOGS PER CAST				# OF DOGS	DOGS PER CAST		
	4	3	2	1		4	3	
1	0	0	0	1	26	5	2	
2	0	0	1		27	6	1	
3	0	1	0		28	7	0	
4	1	0	0		29	5	3	
5	0	1	1		30	6	2	
6	0	2			31	7	1	
7	1	1			32	8	0	
8	2	0			33	6	3	
9	0	3			34	7	2	
10	1	2			35	8	1	
11	2	1			36	9	0	
12	3	0			37	7	3	
13	1	3			38	8	2	
14	2	2			39	9	1	
15	3	1			40	10	0	
16	4	0			41	8	3	
17	2	3			42	9	2	
18	3	2			43	10	1	
19	4	1			44	11	0	
20	5	0			45	9	3	
21	3	3			46	10	2	
22	4	2			47	11	1	
23	5	1			48	12	0	
24	6	0			49	10	3	
25	4	3			50	11	2	

### Master Of Hounds (MOH)/Hunt Director (HD) Guidelines

*Revised January 1, 2020*

UKC Nite Hunts must be listed in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* or on the UKC website Upcoming Events Listing. The listing for UKC Licensed Nite Hunts must indicate a time deadline for closing entries. No entries will be accepted after the listed deadline for any reason. If a Club's event listing does not appear in the Upcoming Events Listing as specified, the UKC Licenses for the Nite Hunt will be withdrawn and no UKC Championship points will be awarded.

#### Event Format

The club has the option of running their event under Master of Hounds or Hunt Director Format unless otherwise restricted by the UKC. The procedures immediately following are relevant to both formats. Procedures and policies relevant specifically to the MOH or HD format will follow.

## MOH/HD Checklist

When you arrive at the club:

- 1) Check to see that the following are posted;
  - (a) MOH/HD checklist.
  - (b) Entry deadline time.
  - (c) Time deadline for returning scorecards.
  - (d) Locating Device Rules.

## How to Take Entries

Give an entry slip to each participant and have them fill it out clearly and completely. If an individual attempting to enter a UKC Licensed Nite Hunt appears, in your judgment, to be under the influence of alcohol or un-prescribed drugs, do not accept their entry. Notify the appropriate club individual or officer of what you are doing and why. Be sure to follow entry requirements outlined under Entering Dogs in UKC® Licensed Events.

## Selecting Judges

Club Officers and the Event Official shall work together in selecting qualified individuals only to serve as judges. The judge must have a good understanding of the Official Nite Hunt Honor Rules and capable of applying them accordingly. He/she must be honest and trustworthy and know the proper procedures that are to be followed if a question arises. They should also be willing to judge the cast for the duration of the hunt. When hunting judges are used, the number of judges needed in each category shall be pre-selected from that pool of entries.

## Selecting Guides

The Host Club is responsible for selecting qualified guides. In the event available guides are not needed the host club has the final decision on which ones will be used. The guide shall be a responsible individual who has permission to hunt on the property(s) they take their cast. The guide shall be willing to guide the cast for the duration of the hunt.

## Separating Entries for Cast Drawing

Start your judge and guide selection process for each category when you begin taking entries. You should have four separate pools of entries for each category as follows:

1. An entry serving as a hunting judge and a guide.
2. An entry serving as a hunting judge.
3. An entry serving as a guide.
4. All remaining entries.

## Drawing Casts

Do not start drawing out casts until after entries are closed at the advertised deadline time. The drawing of entries must be done publicly. Announce that you are ready to start drawing entries so anyone wanting to watch has the opportunity. As a matter of courtesy, draw

the Champions Category first followed by the Registered Category. If a state requires a license or permit number, make certain that it appears on each scorecard.

UKC approves any draw system that is fair and impartial such as the following method:

1. Based on the entry determine the number of judges and guides you need for a specific category. Remove and place any pre-selected judge or guide entries not needed into pool 4 (Separating Entries for Cast Drawing).
2. Determine how many three dog casts will be in the category. If any, add that amount of blank entry forms into pool 4. This allows having four entries to be drawn to each scorecard.
  - a) Draw an entry to each scorecard from pool 1 and 2 until all scorecards have a hunting judge. These entries may be turned up and stuck to the scorecards.
  - b) For any scorecards still needing a guide, draw a hunting guide from Pool 3. These entries shall be turned face down on the scorecard.
  - c) Complete your draw using the remaining entries from Pool 4. These entries shall be turned face down on the scorecard.
  - d) Each scorecard now has four entries on it. Before sticking the entry to the scorecards check for any multiple owners or more than one blank on the same scorecard.
  - e) Publicly read the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Checklist that is included in the Event Packet, before calling out casts.

## While Casts are in the Woods

The MOH/HD must remain at the hunt headquarters at all times to assist any cast or cast members that got separated on their way to the woods or that returned prior to the expiration of hunt time. No questions, pertaining to scoring during the hunt, may be called in to the MOH/HD. The MOH/HD may not accept any information pertaining to final score via a phone. The scorecard must be returned by the deadline in order for the winning dog to be considered for placement.

## After the Scorecards Are Turned In:

- a) Recheck each dog's score. MOH/HD has the authority and shall correct any mathematical errors. Check to see that handlers signed the scorecard. Any handler that does not sign the scorecard results in that dog being scratched. Check to see if handlers, having left the cast for any reason, have indicated hunt time used and other dogs' scores at the time they left the cast.
- b) Any questions must be notated with a question mark (?) on the scorecard.
- c) If there is a question noted, get the cast off by themselves to discuss the situation and make your decision. Only individuals directly involved in the

dispute should be included in any of the discussions. Wait until the scorecards are returned before discussing a situation that arises in the woods. Members of the cast have thirty (30) minutes to make a complaint after the scorecards are turned in.

- d) If a question is not satisfactorily resolved, any owner or handler has the right to request a panel. Refer to the rulebook in the section under; Appeal Procedure for Situations Happening During a UKC® Licensed Nite Hunt.
- e) Keep scorecards confidential until deadline or until all scorecards have been returned. This must be rigidly enforced. Scorecards must then be made available for review. Any owner or handler questioning a dog's score must do so not later than thirty minutes after the posted deadline to return.

### Reports

A. Do not sign a blank report. Make sure that the report is completely filled out, then sign it. The first page of the report goes to UKC, the copy shall be retained by the club for one year. Submit UKC's copy within 10 days or a penalty of \$20 per month will be made.

### General Information

A. Encourage clubs to educate their members on the rules and conduct rules seminars for Judges, Masters of Hounds, Hunt Directors and participants.

B. Study rules on the back of the scorecard and any revisions published in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES*. For official interpretation of the rules, read the monthly Coonhound Advisor column in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES*.

C. Remember to use good judgment. You are the person responsible to see that the hunt is run in a manner that is fair to all and that everyone is treated in a fair and equitable way. The Rulebook contains UKC's basic rules and policies.

### Policies Specific to MOH Format

1. All MOH must be licensed by UKC.
2. A MOH may not have a dog, registered in their name (full or joint ownership), and entered in the event.
3. A MOH will listen to and rule on all questions brought in from the woods in accordance with Rule 16.

### Policies Specific to HD Format

1. Hunt Directors are not required to be licensed by UKC.
2. A Hunt Director may be the owner of a dog entered in the event. The dog must be hunted by a handler because the HD must remain at the club.
3. A Hunt Director will not rule on questions brought in from the woods. The Hunt Director will be responsible for forming a panel to rule on all questions. If qualified, the HD may serve on a panel.

## Master Of Hounds Requirements For Licensing

Following are the procedures and requirements to be followed for an application to be considered.

1. The applicant must be in good standing with UKC and be recommended by officers of an approved club. The applicant must have a minimum of three years' experience in UKC Nite Hunts.
2. The applicant's character, honesty and integrity must be above reproach.
3. They must have a thorough knowledge of UKC's rules and policies and have demonstrated good judgment.
4. The applicant must be at least twenty-one (21) years old.
5. They must completely fill out the application and pass the test covering UKC rules and policies, which may be obtained at your local club or from UKC.
6. An applicant, having met the requirements of items one (1) through five (5) above, must serve an apprenticeship under three (3) different UKC Licensed Masters of Hounds and be recommended by them in order to be considered for a license. No more than two (2) apprentices may serve under a Master of Hounds at an event. Apprentices are subject to the same restrictions as the Master of Hounds concerning entering their dogs in the events where they serve. However, all decisions must be made by the licensed Master of Hounds.
7. Once a Master of Hounds is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UKC at any time.
8. All licenses for UKC Masters of Hounds shall be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of United Kennel Club. The licensed Master of Hounds must keep up-to-date with the rules and policies. If they do not, they will place themselves in jeopardy of losing their license.

\*UKC recommends each club have a minimum of two licensed Masters of Hounds in case of emergencies where the assigned Master of Hounds cannot conduct the hunt.

## Field Trials UKC® Licensed Field Trial Rules

*Revised January 1, 2020*

For entry procedures use "Entering dogs in UKC Licensed Events" in this rulebook.

### POLICIES

1. UKC Registered coonhounds and grade dogs are run separately (they never compete).
2. No animals, scent sticks or any other items that may cause interference are allowed in area of home tree while

dogs are competing.

3. Dogs entered in Field Trials cannot be muzzled.

4. Dogs will be scratched if owner or handler is drinking, or for any unsportsmanlike actions.

5. Any person caught administering un-prescribed drugs to any dog will be barred indefinitely from registering dogs and participating in UKC events. Club or association may require blood testing by a licensed veterinarian.

6. The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age or sex.

7. Any person intimidating, threatening or injuring a Hunter, Judge, Master of Hounds, Club Official or UKC Representative: (a) will be barred for one year up to life from participating in any way (including but not limited to owner, handler, back-up handler, Judge, Guide, Spectator, Licensed Master of Hounds and Licensed Bench Show Judge) in any UKC Licensed event; and (b) shall be disqualified from having any of their dogs receive any Championship points for one year up to life; and (c) shall be barred from registering any dogs in their name with UKC for one year up to life. Details and procedures for handling this situation are available from UKC; however, UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgement and discretion, the right to take such action and impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate.

8. The club reserves the right to refuse admittance to the grounds to any dog not in a healthy condition, and they may demand a veterinary examination.

9. The club assumes no responsibility for the safety of the dogs or the individuals.

10. Clubs sponsoring a UKC Licensed Field Trial will appoint a Chairman of Judges whose responsibility will be to see that the event is run properly and fairly according to official UKC rules. The Chairman of Judges cannot enter a dog in a UKC Licensed Field Trial where they are serving as the Chairman of Judges. Their dogs cannot be entered by a handler.

11. If you have any questions as to how the event is being run, ask the Chairman of Judges before the event starts. It is the participant's responsibility to know the Field Trial rules.

12. The Judge's decision is final. If questions arise, the Chairman of Judges will confer with their panel of Judges to settle any disputes that should arise. Once again, their decision is final.

13. Open registered dogs run against other open dogs only. Champions and Grand Champions run in the same category. Each Field Trial must have a Champion's Category heat, even if only one dog is entered. Dogs having no competition must satisfactorily complete course on track and tree in order to receive championship points or wins. No re-entry allowed.

14. UKC Field Trials must be listed in the Upcoming Events Listings in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* magazine or on the UKC website. The listing for UKC Field Trials must indicate a time deadline for closing entries. No entries will be accepted after the listed deadline for any reason. If a club's listing does not appear in an Upcoming Events Listing as specified, the UKC license for the Field Trial will be withdrawn and no UKC Championship points will be awarded.

## **RUNNING RULES**

1. All dogs must be drawn by lot for placement in heats in front of all participants. No assigning of dogs to a particular heat.

### **Instructions for Drawing Entries at UKC Licensed Field Trials**

Heat Numbers	Multiple Entries	Other Entries
-----------------	---------------------	------------------

a. Determine number of heats necessary. (A maximum of four dogs per heat.) Number a slip of paper for each heat (1, 2, 3, etc.). Place heat numbers in separate box or place face down on table.

b. Place entry slips of dogs, whose owner is entering more than one dog, in box marked "multiple entries". NOTE: If one handler has more dogs than number of heats, dogs remaining after the initial draw must be placed in the "other entries" box. Draw one heat number and one entry from "multiple entry" box. Record heat number and entry on heat sheet. Repeat procedure until all "multiple entries" for that handler have been drawn and placed on the heat sheets. Repeat entire procedure for other handlers with multiple entries.

c. Once all multiple entries are drawn and recorded, complete the draw from the "other entries" box until all heats are filled.

1. If a handler has more entries than the number of heats, more than one of their dogs will run in the same heat. Should this occur, there will be NO SWITCHING of dogs for any reason.
2. The number of dogs to run in a heat will be determined by the number of dogs entered. (A maximum of four dogs per heat.)
3. The club shall assume the responsibility of calling the names and numbers of each heat, but they assume no responsibility if the owner or handler, through negligence, fails to get to the starting post in time for the heat.
4. Dogs of like colors in same heat must wear some type of color identification.
5. The length of the Field Trial course or track should be whatever is practical depending on the terrain and general conditions at the time. The home tree shall

- not be visible from the starting line.
6. A track shall be laid with one of these methods:
    - a) A quality coon, cat or bear scent sprayed on a leather drag laid in a slow and deliberate manner; or
    - b) A coonskin, lion, bobcat or bear hide with a scent drag attached. The track should not resemble a dash race. The trial coon, lure or scent shall be put up the home tree several feet. Scent track must be laid prior to each heat, Semi-Final or Grand Final.
  7. A live raccoon or lion, bobcat or bear hide, or if prohibited by law, a substitute is to be placed approximately 25 feet up the pole or tree and left there during the trial. The cage is to be the type that a dog cannot get to or contact the raccoon or hide in any way. The cage is also to be designed so that the raccoon cannot injure itself in any way.
  8. There will be at least one (1) Starting Judge, two (2) line Judges and three (3) Tree Judges.
  9. All dogs, owners and handlers at the starting line are in the charge of the Starting Judge. The Starting Judge must explain to them his system of starting so each owner and handler will be familiar with his system.
  10. Dogs will be released simultaneously as directed and controlled by a signal from the Starting Judge. Any dog released before starting signal will be disqualified. Dogs are not to be encouraged by handlers after being released. In Final, should all dogs refuse to run the track, the Chairman or Judges may call for a new track.
  11. Line flags will be placed approximately 50 yards from home tree and about 75 feet apart. Dogs must follow the general trail laid and pass free and clear between line flags to qualify for a line or tree decision. Judges will remain behind line flags.
  12. Dogs will be allowed 15 minutes from time of release by Starting Judge to run the track and cross the line marker to qualify for line decision. After the first dog passes through the line flags, a time of 3 minutes will be allowed for a dog to qualify for a tree decision.
  13. The cage, either when suspended from a pole or a tree, will have a 20-foot circle (40-foot diameter) drawn around it. In order to receive tree points, entire dog must be inside 20-foot circle of the tree. Dog can run out of the circle and return. Dogs also must bark to the satisfaction of the Tree Judges to be declared a tree winner.
  14. No individual will be permitted within 30 feet of the Judge's tree until after the Judges have rendered their decision. No individual shall make any noise

or movement to encourage his dog under penalty of being disqualified. If the dogs start fighting, the Judge will call the owners to part them. Dogs fighting will be scratched. When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved. Dog scratched for fighting will lose all points earned in that trial. No warming up of dogs at home tree prior to the event.

15. The First Line and First Tree winner in a heat will advance to the finals. A semi-final will be held if more than four dogs advance from the heats. A dog will be eligible for line AND tree in the finals by winning line OR tree in the heats. Championship points are not awarded in any Semi Final(s).
16. The Line or Tree winners from the heats or Semi-Finals will compete for Line and Tree in the Finals.
17. In case of ties, those dogs involved will advance to the Semi-Finals or Finals. Each dog will receive full points.

#### **Point System**

#### **Heat Winners**

A dog winning First Line receives 5 points

A dog winning First Tree receives 5 points

#### **Semi-Final Winners:**

Championship points are not awarded in any Semi-Final(s).

#### **Grand Final Winners**

A dog winning First Line receives 10 points

A dog winning First Tree receives 15 points

No dog may receive over 35 points in any Field Trial or Water Race

A Registered dog running alone will receive Championship points but must have competition to satisfy Line and Tree requirement (this applies to heats). In Semi-Finals or Grand Finals competition is not required. If only enough dogs are entered for one heat, that heat will also be considered the Grand Final. Winners will receive Heat and Grand Final points. If a tie, Grand Final must be run until a winner is determined. Champion dogs having no competition must satisfactorily complete course on track and tree to receive points toward Grand Champion.

Dog must compete in all eligible heats in order to receive Championship points.

18. The host club must fill out the Field Trial report. It must be signed by the Chairman of Judges. The report must be mailed to the office of the United Kennel Club, 100 East Kilgore Road, Kalamazoo, MI, 49002-5584. The points awarded will immediately

be entered in the Championship Point Records.

19. Recording fees, for each UKC dog entered in the Field Trial, must be sent to United Kennel Club, with the Field Trial Report within ten (10) days of the event or a penalty of \$20 is due. Show total number of UKC dogs entered on Field Trial Report. An additional charge of \$20 per month will be made for reports that are 30 days past due.

**Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.**

## Water Races

### UKC® Licensed Water Race Rules

*Revised January 1, 2020*

For entry procedures use “Entering dogs in UKC Licensed Events” found in this rulebook.

#### POLICIES

1. UKC Registered coonhounds and grade dogs are run separately (they never compete).
2. No animals, scent sticks or any other items that may cause interference are allowed in area of home tree while dogs are competing.
3. Dogs entered in Water Races cannot be muzzled.
4. Dogs will be scratched if owner or handler is drinking, or for any unsportsmanlike actions.
5. Any person caught administering un-prescribed drugs to any dog will be barred indefinitely from registering dogs and participating in UKC events. Club or association may require blood testing by a licensed veterinarian.
6. The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age or sex.
7. Any person intimidating, threatening or injuring a Hunter, Judge, Master of Hounds, Club Official or UKC Representative: (a) will be barred for one year up to life from participating in any way (including but not limited to owner, handler, back-up handler, Judge, Guide, Spectator, Licensed Master of Hounds and Licensed Bench Show Judge) in any UKC Licensed event; and (b) shall be disqualified from having any of their dogs receive any Championship points for one year up to life; and (c) shall be barred from registering any dogs in their name with UKC for one year up to life. Details and procedures for handling this situation are available from UKC; however, UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgement and discretion, the right to take such action and impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate.
8. The club reserves the right to refuse admittance to the grounds to any dog not in a healthy condition, and they

may demand a veterinary examination.

9. The club assumes no responsibility for the safety of the dogs or the individuals.

10. Clubs sponsoring a UKC Licensed Water Race will appoint a Chairman of Judges whose responsibility will be to see that the event is run properly and fairly according to official UKC rules. The Chairman of Judges cannot enter a dog in a UKC Licensed Water Race where they are serving as the Chairman of Judges. Their dogs cannot be entered by a handler.

11. If you have any questions as to how the event is being run, ask the Chairman of Judges before the event starts. It is the participant’s responsibility to know the Water Race rules.

12. The Judge’s decision is final. If questions arise, the Chairman of Judges will confer with their panel of Judges to settle any disputes that should arise. Once again, their decision is final.

13. Open registered dogs compete against other open dogs only. Champions and Grand Champions compete together in their own Champion’s Category. Each Field Trial must have a Champion’s Category heat, even if only one dog is entered. Dogs having no competition must satisfactorily complete course on line and tree in order to receive championship points or wins. No re-entry allowed.

14. UKC Field Trials must be listed in the Upcoming Events Listings in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* magazine or on the UKC website. The listing for UKC Field Trials must indicate a time deadline for closing entries. No entries will be accepted after the listed deadline for any reason. If a club’s listing does not appear in an Upcoming Events Listing as specified, the UKC license for the Field Trial will be withdrawn and no UKC Championship points will be awarded.

#### RUNNING RULES

1. All dogs must be drawn by lot for placement in heats in front of all participants. No assigning of dogs to a particular heat.

##### Instructions for Drawing Entries at UKC Licensed Water Races

Heat Numbers	Multiple Entries	Other Entries
-----------------	---------------------	------------------

a. Determine number of heats necessary. (A maximum of four dogs per heat.) Number a slip of paper for each heat (1,2,3, etc.). Place heat numbers in separate box or place face down on table.

b. Place entry slips of dogs, whose owner is entering more than one dog, in box marked “multiple entries.” NOTE: If one handler has more dogs than number of heats, dogs remaining after the initial draw must be placed in the “other entries” box. Draw one heat number and one

entry from "multiple entry" box. Record heat number and entry on heat sheet. Repeat procedure until all "multiple entries" for that handler have been drawn and placed on the heat sheets. Repeat entire procedure for other handlers with multiple entries.

c. Once all multiple entries are drawn and recorded, complete the draw from the "other entries" box until all heats are filled.

1. If a handler has more entries than the number of heats, more than one of their dogs will run in the same heat. Should this occur, there will be NO SWITCHING of dogs for any reason.
2. The number of dogs to run in a heat will be determined by the number of dogs entered. (A maximum of four dogs per heat)
3. The club shall assume the responsibility of calling the names and numbers of each heat, but they assume no responsibility if the owner or handler, through negligence, fails to get to the starting post in time for the heat.
4. Dogs of like colors in same heat must wear some type of color identification.
5. Minimum length of swim pond should be 150 feet. There is no maximum length.
6. A live raccoon, or lion, bobcat or bear hide is to be placed in a cage and either suspended on a cable over the water or the cage can be placed on a float. The cage is to be the type that a dog cannot get to or contact the raccoon or hide in any way. The cage is also to be designed so that the raccoon cannot injure itself in any way.
7. The cage, either when suspended from a cable or when placed on a float, is to be drawn across the water in such a way so as to be a uniform distance from shore for the entire race.
8. There will be at least one (1) Starting Judge, two (2) line Judges and three (3) Tree Judges.
9. All dogs, owners and handlers at the starting line are in the charge of the Starting Judge. The Starting Judge must explain to them his system of starting so each owner and handler will be familiar with his system.
10. All dogs must start from a starting box or line, designed so that all dogs are released at the same time. Stakes are to be set at water's edge and approximately 30 feet apart. All dogs must pass between these stakes or be disqualified.
11. Dogs will be released simultaneously as directed and controlled by a signal from the Starting Judge. Any dog released before starting signal will be disqualified. Dogs are not to be encouraged by handlers after being released.
12. A line will be placed across the pond near the end

and close to the shore. The first swimming dog to cross under this line will be declared the Line winner.

13. Dogs must swim the entire length of the pond to qualify for a Line or Tree decision. Dog is disqualified if determined to have been assisted by boundary fencing or had an unfair advantage due to lack of depth in water (not swimming) inside boundaries. (Judge's decision) Dogs also must bark to the satisfaction of the Tree Judges to be declared a tree winner.
14. To win a Line decision, a dog must pass free and clear in swimming water, under the line, going in direction of home tree.
15. From the time the Line winner crosses under the line, a time of three minutes will be allowed for the dog to tree. If no dog trees within three minutes, the Judge declares the heat over.
16. The cage, either when suspended from a pole or a tree, will have a 20-foot circle (40-foot diameter) drawn around it. In order to receive tree points, entire dog must be inside 20-foot circle of the tree. Dog must be out of the water, on the ground and inside the 20-foot circle to earn these points. Dogs also must bark to the satisfaction of the Tree Judges to be declared a tree winner.
17. No individual will be permitted within 30 feet of the Judge's tree until after the Judges have rendered their decision. No individual shall make any noise or movement to encourage his dog under penalty of being disqualified. If the dogs start fighting, the Judge will call the owners to part them. Dogs fighting will be scratched. When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved. Dogs scratched for fighting will lose all points earned in that race. No warming up of dogs at home tree prior to the event.
18. The First Line and First Tree dog in a heat will advance to the finals. A semi-final will be held if more than four dogs advance from the heats. A dog will be eligible for line AND tree in the finals by winning line OR tree in the heats. Championship points are not awarded in any Semi Final(s).
19. The Line or Tree winners from the heats or Semi-Finals will compete for Line and Tree in Finals.
20. In case of ties, those dogs involved will advance to the Semi-Finals or Finals. Each dog will receive full points.

#### **Point System**

#### **Heat Winners**

A dog winning First Line receives 5 points

A dog winning First Tree receives 5 points

#### **Semi-Final Winners:**

Championship points are not awarded in any Semi-Final(s).

### Grand Final Winners

A dog winning First Line receives 10 points

A dog winning First Tree receives 15 points

No dog may receive over 35 points in any Field Trial or Water Race.

A Registered dog swimming alone will receive Championship points but must have competition to satisfy Line and Tree requirement. This rule applies to heats. In Semi-Finals or Grand Finals competition is not required. If only enough dogs are entered for one heat, that heat will also be considered the Grand Final. Winners will receive Heat and Grand Final points. If a tie, Grand Final must be run until a winner is determined. Champion dogs having no competition must satisfactorily complete line and tree requirements to receive a win. Dog must compete in all eligible heats in order to receive Championship points.

21. The host club must fill out the Water Race report. It must be signed by the Chairman of Judges. The report must be mailed to the office of the United Kennel Club, 100 East Kilgore Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49002-5584. The points awarded will immediately be entered in the Championship Point Records.
22. Recording fees for each UKC dog entered in the Water Race must be sent to United Kennel Club, with the Water Race Report within ten (10) days of the event or a penalty of \$20 is due. Show total number of UKC dogs entered on Water Race Report. An additional charge of \$20 per month will be made for reports that are 30 days past due.

**Note: Spayed and neutered dogs may compete in all UKC Licensed Coonhound Events, including bench shows, nite hunts, water races and field trials.**

## Scratched for Fighting — UKC® Policy

*Revised January 1, 1999*

UKC will notify the owners of dogs Scratched for Fighting after the dog has been Scratched for Fighting twice within a two (2) year period. The third time a dog is Scratched for Fighting within two (2) years, the dog is barred from participating in UKC events for two (2) years.

When three (3) reports — Bench Show, Field Trial, Nite Hunt or Water Race have been received by UKC indicating a dog has been “Scratched for Fighting” or attempting to fight within a two (2) year period: The reports will be checked to see if they have been properly certified by (1) Judge of the cast, (2) the Master of Hounds and

(3) two different officers of the club. If the reports are properly signed-off, the registered owner of the dog will be sent a certified letter advising them of the dates and the names of the clubs that have reported their dog “Scratched for Fighting.” The name of the dog, the registered owner’s name, address and the time barred for fighting will be published in *COONHOUND BLOODLINES* magazine. They will be requested to return their UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry™ Card by a specific date (approximately 30 days). The Registration Certificate will be stamped BARRED FOR FIGHTING UNTIL \_\_\_\_\_. It will then be sent back to the registered owner. The UKC Easy Entry™ Card will be retained by UKC. The dog will be barred for two (2) years from the date of the third “Scratched for Fighting” offense. At the end of two (2) year period, the registered owner of the dog can return the Registration Certificate, along with the proper fee, to the UKC Registration Office for the issuance of a new Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry™ Card. All reference to fighting will be removed, and the dog will once again be allowed to enter UKC licensed events.

If the owner of the dog does not send in the UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry™ Card by the deadline indicated in the notification letter, the following actions will be taken.

1. Transfer of ownership will not be allowed.
2. The dog will not be allowed to be used in a breeding program. No litters will be registered where the dog is the sire or dam.
3. The dog will be barred from receiving any UKC Championship Points.

If the UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry™ Card is returned after the notification deadline they will be reviewed on an individual basis as to what actions will be taken.

Dogs already reported as Scratched for Fighting will still retain their records.

United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents of UKC events and to review those documents for any reason. Some, but not all, of the items reviewed are: A) scores; B) dogs scratched for fighting; C) errors by the recording person; and D) documentation excluded for any reason. UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found.

Even though the report or other documentation might not have the signatures of a Judge of a cast or the Master of Hounds, UKC reserves the right unto itself to make the necessary corrections and adjustments in line with our Inherent Rights and Powers.

Dogs entered in UKC Nite Hunts cannot be muzzled.

## Special Events/Programs

### Fairground Rules for UKC® Administered Events

1. Only United Kennel Club registered dogs will be allowed on the grounds. Be prepared to show the UKC Registration Certificate if requested.
2. Individuals determined by UKC Staff to have an excessive number of dogs for the purpose of selling or trading and/or individuals with dogs not being cared for or in otherwise poor condition will not be allowed on grounds and will be ejected immediately if not in compliance.

### UKC® Winter Classic

The UKC Winter Classic Nite Hunt and Bench Show is an annual event held in February each year. It is a major coonhound event like Autumn Oaks. The purpose of this event is to bring a major UKC event to the people of the South, while at the same time providing a vacation opportunity for those in the North. The UKC Winter Classic Hunt and Show is one of the largest and most prestigious events in the United States. Much like Autumn Oaks, it is a family affair where old friends are reacquainted, and new ones are made.

### Autumn Oaks

#### The Event Where History Is Made

*Founded in 1960 in the Midwest, Autumn Oaks is the granddaddy of all UKC events. The UKC National Grand Champions of the seven UKC recognized breeds are named at this annual hunt.*

*Advanced Entries Only. Advertisements and entry information appear each year in the June, July and August issues of COONHOUND BLOODLINES and on the UKC website, [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).*

Autumn Oaks brings together the outstanding coonhounds from the United States and Canada to participate in a Nite Hunt and Bench Show. This prestigious event is held over Labor Day weekend each year. The location of Autumn Oaks is carefully selected on the basis of a club or clubs that can supply qualified guides, good hunting territory, and a fairground that has camping facilities, barns and meeting rooms to accommodate the thousands who attend. Autumn Oaks is a family affair and an event where old friends become reacquainted and new ones are made.

#### AUTUMN OAKS - SPECIAL TITLES

(A) UKC National Grand Nite Champion of Breed (one for each of the coonhound breeds recognized by UKC). This title may be earned only at the Autumn Oaks event held once a year. Only UKC recognized Grand Nite Champions compete for this title of excellence. 1. This title is awarded to the highest placing dog of each breed in the GRAND SIXTEEN. 2. If the breed is not represented then the highest scoring cast winner of Round 1. If the breed does not have

a cast winner in round one then the title is awarded to the highest scoring non-cast winner.

(B) UKC National Grand Nite Champion of the Year (NGRNITECH). This degree may be earned only at the Autumn Oaks event held once a year. The overall winner of the GRAND SIXTEEN (provided it has a total score of plus points) is crowned the UKC National Grand Nite Champion of the Year.

(C) UKC National Grand Show Champion of Breed of the Year (one for each of the coonhound breeds recognized by UKC). This degree may be earned only at the Autumn Oaks event held once a year. Only UKC recognized Grand Show Champions compete for this title of excellence.

(D) UKC National Grand Show Champion of the Year (NGRCH). This degree may be earned only at the Autumn Oaks event held once a year. The dog receiving this award is selected from the National Grand Show Champions of Breed of the Year.

(E) UKC National Dual Champion of the Year (NATLDC). This degree may be earned only at Autumn Oaks event held once a year. Dogs with both a UKC Nite Hunt and UKC Bench Show degree are eligible to compete in the National Dual Championship. First, those dogs entered compete in the nite hunt. Plus-point cast winners advance to the show portion of the event. A winner is selected from each breed in the show. Seven breed winners compete in the final class, where the overall winner receives the degree.

### UKC® World Coonhound

#### Nite Hunt Championship Rules

1. NAME OF THE EVENT: The UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Championship.
2. Eligibility for Events: All United Kennel Club Registered coonhounds including Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions are eligible for running in this event. They will be drawn out together as one class. Dogs advancing to the Finals must be present at the entry deadline.
3. RULES FOR RUNNING THE EVENTS: UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules, as they apply to Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions (even though Registered dogs are hunting), in effect for the year the event is run, with special revisions as required.
4. QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS: Dogs may only qualify at Regional Qualifying Events or designated Qualifying Slam events. Plus-point cast winners will be qualified in each Qualifying Event. A dog must have a TOTAL SCORE OF PLUS POINTS AND BE A CAST WINNER before they can be considered qualified or to place in the event.
5. DATES OF EVENTS: Qualifying Events may be held throughout each year. The Zones and Finals are held September each year to determine the UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Champion.
6. LOCATION OF EVENTS: Regional Qualifying Events will be located strategically throughout the popular coon hunting

areas. Certain clubs outside of those popular areas may be considered for a Qualifying Slam Event. The Zones and Finals will be held at locations selected each year by UKC.

7. The host club shall be responsible for appointing a qualified MOH for a Regional Qualifying Event. There will be a UKC Official Field Representative in charge of and will serve as Master of Hounds at the Zones and Finals.

8. All casts and judges, with the exception of the Final Cast, will be drawn publicly.

9. All Judges for Regional Qualifying Events, Qualifying Slam Events, Zones and Finals must be not less than eighteen (18) years of age. Judges must be physically fit to perform all duties of a Judge. They must have served as a Judge previously in at least five (5) UKC licensed Nite Hunts and know the UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules. All Judges at the Zones must be approved by the Official UKC Field Representative. All Finals judges must be approved by UKC.

10. A dog may qualify at one R.Q.E. per year. Once qualified a dog may not be entered in another R.Q.E. with exception to a Breed Specific Event that may be a R.Q.E. There is no limit as to how many different Regional Qualifying Events a dog may enter in order to qualify.

11. An individual can substitute a dog that has been entered in the Zones if the dog has died, come in season, or declared to be ill and not able to participate in the hunt. This must be confirmed in writing from a veterinarian. The dog can only be replaced by another dog that is registered in the same owner's name and was also qualified in the current year. The substitution must be made by the advertised deadline to confirm entries. No refunds will be issued after the advertised deadline for any reason.

12. Championship Wins:

Championship wins will be awarded to Cast Winners with plus points as follows:

A. Regional Qualifying Event:

1. Registered Dogs – Win towards Nite Champion
2. Nite Champion Dogs – Win towards Grand Nite Champion.
3. Grand Nite Champion Dogs – Win towards Grand Nite Champion Multiplier Degree

B. Zone Semifinals (each night):

1. Registered Dogs – Win towards Nite Champion
2. Nite Champion Dogs – Win towards Grand Nite Champion.
3. Grand Nite Champion Dogs – Win towards Grand Nite Champion Multiplier Degree

C. Finals:

1. Wins awarded to cast winners in Rounds 1, 3, and the Final Cast.

13. No spectators will be allowed on any casts of the Zones or Finals. Each handler may select one back-up handler in case of illness or injury to the original handler. Once the back-up handler takes over, the original handler cannot take back over

for the remainder of that particular cast. Original handler can handle dog on subsequent casts. The back-up handler cannot by word of mouth or action assist original handler or dog in any way. Judges can order the removal of a back-up handler from the cast and the woods for any reason.

14. Advanced entries only will be accepted for the Zones. Winner's receipt and entry fees must be submitted by the advertised deadline.

15. All UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Champions will not have to qualify for the World Championship as long as they pay the entry fee for the Zone Semifinals by the advertised deadline.

16. FEES: Cash, personal checks, money orders, certified checks, VISA, or MasterCard will be accepted for entry fees. No refunds will be made after the deadline unless the dog has died and the Registration Certificate is turned in to UKC.

17. The winner of the Finals will be designated the UKC World Nite Hunt Champion and will have the following designation placed before the dog's name on their Registration Certificate, Pedigree and UKC Easy Entry™ Card: WLDNITECH

18. UKC will award a special breed trophy at the Finals to one dog, regardless of sex, from each of the UKC recognized coonhound breeds.

19. A UKC World Championship Regional Qualifying Nite Hunt will be a one (1) night, two (2) hour hunt authorized by UKC to a sponsoring club meeting the requirements outlined by UKC. It can run in conjunction only with other UKC Licensed events on a particular weekend.

20. A UKC Appeal procedure will not be applicable during the Zones or Finals. The Master of Hounds' decision will be final in all situations pertaining to activities during the actual hunt. UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgment and discretion, the right to take such action and impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate.

21. ZONES: Zone locations are placed strategically throughout popular coon hunting areas. All entrants have the option to select the zone location of their choice in which to participate. The entrant's selection must be noted on their entry form.

First Night - All eligible dogs that have confirmed their advance entry by the advertised deadline will be drawn out in casts and hunt two hours. UKC Field Representatives shall assign hunting judges to all casts. UKC Field Representatives may assign non-hunting Judge to any cast if deemed necessary.

Second Night - All dogs that hunted the first night, except those scratched for any reason, will be re-drawn into casts and hunt two hours. UKC Field Representatives shall assign hunting judges to all casts. UKC Field Representatives may assign non-hunting Judge to any cast if deemed necessary.

### **Dogs Advancing from Zone Semifinals:**

Each Zone will advance to the World Finals a number of dogs based on the percentage of dogs entered in that zone compared to the total World Championship entry.

1. Cast winners with plus points for both the first and second nights. Should the limit of advancing dogs be exceeded, then dogs with highest total combined cast winning scores, with plus points, for both nights will be ranked until limit of advancing dogs' maximum is met.
  2. If limit is not met, then the cast winners with highest scores, with plus points, from either the first or second nights will be accepted to meet the limit.
22. Finals: Thursday Night (First round) - All eligible dogs that confirm their entry by the advertised deadline will be drawn out in casts and hunt two hours. Using Hunting or Non-Hunting judges in the first round is the discretion of UKC.

Thursday Night (Second round) - All cast winners with a total score of plus points from first round will hunt alone for two (2) hours or until dog has a total score of plus points. One (1) non-hunting Judge assigned to each cast.

Friday Night (Third round) - All dogs with plus points from the Thursday Night (Second round) will be drawn into casts and will hunt two (2) hours. One (1) non-hunting Judge and one non-hunting guide for each cast, as needed.

Friday Night (Fourth round) - The top three (3) Cast Winners with plus points from Friday Night (Third round) will advance to the Saturday Night (Fifth round) Final Cast. All other Cast Winners with plus points from the Friday Night (Third round) will be drawn into one cast and will hunt two hours. One (1) non-hunting Judge. The Cast Winner with plus points will advance to the Saturday Night (Fifth Round) Final Cast.

Saturday Night (Fifth Round) "The Final Cast" - The top four cast winners with plus points determined from Friday Night will run together in one (1) cast for two (2) hours. There will be one (1) non-hunting Judge and one (1) non-hunting assistant Judge appointed by UKC for this cast. Dog with highest total score of plus points for the Final Cast will be declared the UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Champion. If there is a tie, ties will be broken by applying the tie-breaking procedure. If no dogs have a total score of plus points, dogs involved (unless scratched) will hunt in one-hour intervals until a winner is declared. If all dogs are scratched in the Final Cast, all will hunt in one-hour intervals until a winner is declared. A one-hour interval hunt may not begin after the official time of sunrise.

---

## **UKC® World Coonhound Show Championship Rules**

1. The UKC World Coonhound Championship Show will be held on the Saturday at the Finals of the UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Championship.
2. Entries at the UKC World Coonhound Championship Show must first qualify at a Regional Qualifying Show. The qualifying show will be held in conjunction with a Regional Qualifying Nite Hunt Event or a designated Qualifying Slam Event for the UKC World Coonhound Nite Hunt Championship. All Qualifying Events will also have a qualifying show. There will be no show at the Zone Semifinals.
3. All United Kennel Club registered coonhounds, including Champions and Grand Champions are eligible for showing in this event. Procedures for entering dogs in UKC licensed events must be strictly followed.
4. The club hosting the Qualifying Event will select the Bench Show Judge. The Bench Show will be conducted in the same manner as all UKC Licensed Bench Shows. Championship points will be awarded to all winners in the normal manner.
5. Only the Best Male of Show, Best Female of Show, Champion Male, Champion Female, Grand Champion Male and Female winners will qualify for the UKC World Coonhound Championship Show.
6. The Winner's Receipt will serve as the proof of qualification and the receipt or copy thereof must be mailed with the current entry fee to United Kennel Club by the advertised deadline in order for the entry to be accepted for the UKC World Coonhound Championship Show.
7. There is no limit on how many different Regional Qualifying Events a dog may enter in order to qualify. There is no limit to the number of dogs an individual can qualify for the Finals.
8. The UKC World Coonhound Championship Show will be conducted as follows: Registered dogs, Champions and Grand Champions will be shown together. A Best Male and Best Female from each breed will be selected. Once the Best Male and Best Female for each breed are selected, a maximum of fourteen (14) dogs will be judged to select the UKC World Coonhound Show Champion and Opposite Sex winners. UKC reserves the right to utilize one or more Judges individually or as a panel to determine the Winner.
9. The winner of the UKC World Coonhound Show Championship will have the following designation placed before the dog's name on their Registration Certificate, Pedigree and UKC Easy Entry™ Card: WSHOWCH
10. All former UKC World Coonhound Show Champions need not qualify for the World Show Championship as long as they pay the entry fee by the advertised deadline.

---

## UKC® Youth Coonhound Series Official UKC Licensed Youth Championship Rules

*Effective January 1, 2020*

### GENERAL RULES

#### 1. HANDLER ELIGIBILITY:

Two (2) age divisions:

A: 5-12 years old

B: 13-17 years old

Bench Show - One (1) age division:

5-17 years old

Handler may be required to present proof of age to the entry taker. Only one handler per dog allowed. Handler must be enrolled in school or have completed the requirements for graduation from high school.

2. RULES FOR RUNNING THE EVENTS: UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules, as they apply to Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions (even though Registered dogs are hunting), in effect for the year the event is run, with special revisions as required. Only adult, non-hunting Judges, 18 years or older, will be used. Two spectators will be allowed per dog. Spectators cannot, by word of mouth or action, assist handler or dog in any way. Judge can order the removal of a spectator from the cast and the woods for any reason. Children shall not be judged by their parents or members of their immediate family. Immediate Family is considered as the spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, brother or sister, grandchild, or in-law of a person.

UKC Coonhound Bench Rules apply to all licensed Youth Event bench shows. The height of show benches may be modified to accommodate youth handlers at the club's discretion.

3. Any person intimidating, threatening, or injuring a hunter, Judge, Master of Hounds, club official or UKC Representative: (a) Will be barred for one year up to life from participating in any way (including, but not limited to owner, handler, back-up handler, Judge, guide, spectator, licensed Master of Hounds and licensed Bench Show Judge) in any UKC licensed event; (b) Shall be disqualified from having any of their dogs receive any Championship points for one year up to life; and (c) Shall be barred from Registering any dogs in their name with UKC for one year up to life.

UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgement and discretion, the right to take such action and impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate.

### NITE HUNT RULES

1. DOG ELIGIBILITY: All United Kennel Club Registered Coonhounds, including Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions, are eligible for running in this event. They will be drawn out together as one class. Owner or certified handler must have in his/her possession the dog's UKC Registration

Certificate or UKC Easy Entry™ Card. Otherwise, see "Entering Dogs in an Event" section of the rulebook.

2. PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS: Dog must have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before being considered for placement in the event. Sponsors may award trophies, but no Championship wins will be awarded to cast winners having no plus points.

3. CHAMPIONSHIP WINS: Championship wins will be awarded to all cast winners with a total score of plus points.

4. There will be a UKC Licensed Master of Hounds in charge of each event. The host organization will be responsible for obtaining a UKC licensed Master of Hounds.

UKC's Inherent Rights and Powers will also be applicable as required.

### BENCH SHOW RULES

#### 1. HANDLER ELIGIBILITY:

Bench Show - One (1) age division: 5-17 years old.

Handler may be required to present proof of age to the entry taker. Handler must be enrolled in school or have completed the requirements for graduation from high school.

2. Championship points are award for the Youth Championship Series Bench Show in the same manner as with all UKC Licensed Bench Shows. A UKC Licensed Bench Show Judge is required. UKC Coonhound Bench Rules apply to all licensed Youth Event bench shows. The height of show benches may be modified to accommodate youth handlers at the club's discretion.

3. All handlers will be required to gait and handle the dog without assistance.

4. All UKC policies concerning entering dogs in UKC Licensed Events shall apply to the Youth Championship Series Bench Shows.

---

## UKC Youth Nationals

*Effective January 1, 2020*

The UKC Youth National Championship was established in 2001 and is held each summer for the purpose of fostering and promoting youth activity in the coonhound sport. A total of \$10,000 in Continuing Education Tuition Prizes are awarded. Only those youth age 17 and under at the time of the National Championship are eligible to compete.

The UKC Youth National Championship is without a doubt one of the most positive and enjoyable major events of the year. The focus for this event is sportsmanship, participation and fun. Thanks to the wonderful families and youth that participate in this sport, we have never failed yet to meet these goals.

---

## Youth Education Program!

YEP! for your kids....YEP! for the future of your sport!

The Basic Course Objectives – The YEP! program parameters, effective January 1, 2009, permit a club to do a one-day YEP! event culminating with a licensed bench show and nite hunt. It is expected, however, that only those clubs

with the intent of sponsoring a quality, day time educational and activities program for the youth apply for a YEP! event. One of our basic objectives is to give our kids the spotlight for the day. The long term goal is to keep our kids participating in the sport and encourage them to introduce others to our coonhunting heritage. As a way of accomplishing that, our short term goal is to provide them with a fun, educational outing where they are made to feel special and appreciated.

**Setting Your Program Date – Standard scheduling arrangements for UKC licensed events apply.** A YEP! event will not be counted against your club's current allotment of seven licensed event dates per year. The 100-mile conflict radius does apply but we will work with clubs and their neighboring clubs in any way that we can to see that event dates can get scheduled.

**Planning YEP! Activities –** It is required that interested clubs appoint a committee and/or chairperson to plan and oversee the event. A chairperson's name and contact information must be submitted to UKC at the time of event scheduling. The UKC staff will assist the committee chair in any way possible in helping to plan a successful YEP! event. A chairperson need not feel as though they are personally responsible for doing all the instructional duties during the YEP! event.

**It's Not About Pass or Fail –** A current YEP! card in the pocket of a youth hunter or show enthusiast means something because it has to be earned. If they were just handed out, there would be no pride nor sense of accomplishment. That being said, it is not our objective to formally test and potentially fail any of the youth in attendance. The key is participation and the youth in attendance should be made aware of this at the start of the event. They must participate and pay attention.

Thank you for your interest in helping to conduct a Youth Education Program course for your local club. The positives for committing to a program of this nature cannot be overstated. It is only because of the extra effort of individuals with the best interest of the sport of coon hunting and this country's youth at heart, that we are able to offer this one-of-a-kind program.

Ready to get started?

Contact us at (269) 343-9020 or e-mail [fieldoperations@ukcdogs.com](mailto:fieldoperations@ukcdogs.com) to become a UKC-approved YEP!! club.

---

## UKC® Licensed Hunt Test Program

*Revised January 1, 2014*

Introduced in the fall of 2007, the Hunt Test Program offers an opportunity for enthusiasts to earn a working certificate and title recognition on qualifying dogs. The program is primarily web based and the UKC website should be consulted with up to the minute changes to rules, policies and procedures. For more information on the UKC Hunt Test Program please visit [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).

## UKC Hunt Test Policies and Procedures

### Licensing Requirements

1. Hunt Tests are only available to UKC approved clubs
2. Hunt Tests may only be held at established club event and meeting sites.
3. Hunt Tests do not count against the number of licensed events that a club may hold.
4. Hunt Tests may be conducted on any night of the week other than Sunday.
5. There is no mileage conflict between clubs that wish to hold Hunt Tests on the same night.
6. Hunt Test date and location (with directions) must be listed in the Hunt Test Schedule on the UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com) no less than 30 days prior to the Hunt Test

### Entry Requirements

7. Owner and Handler must be in good standing with United Kennel Club and must present a current Easy Entry Card or Registration Certificate at time of entry.

### Fees

8. There is no license fee to the club to conduct a Hunt Test. The club must pay a recording fee of \$3 per dog tested regardless of whether the dog passes or fails.

### Forms

9. Hunt Test Evaluation Forms, Hunt Test Report Forms and Hunt Test Receipt Forms may be downloaded free of charge from the Forms page of the UKC website. Forms are also available for a minimal fee by contacting United Kennel Club.

10. All completed hunt test forms must be kept on file by the host club for a period of one year. Both pass and fail forms must be kept on file. Hunt Test Report Forms must be filled out by the host club and sent to UKC with recording fees within 10 days.

### Titles

11. Upon the completion of three (3) successful hunt test passes by the three different inspectors, a dog will be issued the title of HTX as a suffix to the dog's UKC registered name. The owner of record will be sent a degree and new Easy Entry card verifying the achievement.

12. Multiple titles may be earned for each additional three (3) successful hunt test passes. Multiple titles will be indicated by a numerical addition to the HTX title such as HTX2, HTX3, etc. The owner of record will be sent a degree and new Easy Entry card for each additional title.

### Hunt Test Evaluation Rules

There is no restriction as to the number of people who may accompany an evaluation, except in cases where it will jeopardize permission of the guide.

1. Dogs must be free cast to search for wild game. Evaluations may not be done:

- A) in enclosures
- B) off feeders
- C) on game seen crossing road

2. Dogs shall be hunted for one hour. If the dog is trailing as time runs out, hunting time may be extended for an

additional 15 minutes if the dog has not completed the requirements for a pass during the hour. Dogs shall be picked up prior to completion of the hour for having committed two of the listed standard faults or the same standard fault on two separate occasions.

3. Dogs shall either pass or fail the evaluation. A dog will be awarded a pass for satisfying each of the Standard Requirements on the same track, while hunting for one hour, without committing two Standard Faults.

#### 4. Requirements Defined

- A) Went Hunting - Dog must go hunting alone and search for track. Hunters may proceed slowly in the direction they wish to hunt but are not to walk a dog that will not go hunting without first considering it one fault.
- B) Open on Track - Dogs must open on track at least every 8 minutes. Dogs that tree without first opening on track will not be penalized, nor will they receive a pass on that track for the open trailing requirement.
- C) Treed & Stay Treed - Once it is determined that the dog has settled on a tree, dog must be allowed to tree for a period of five minutes before hunters arrive.
- D) Coon Seen - A handler may use as much of his hunting time as he wishes (within reason) to search a tree. A dog may receive credit if the coon is found in a tree no more than one tree away where a coon could have legitimately crossed over. At least one of the inspectors must see the coon.

#### 5. Faults Defined

- A) Off Game - Dog will receive a fault for running, treeing, baying or catching off game. Any animal other than a coon will be considered off game. Handlers will be required to use their one hour hunting time to recover dogs running fast game.
- B) Slick Tree - Dog will receive a fault for treeing on a tree where it is obvious there is no coon.
- C) Quit Track - When it's obvious that a dog has quit a track that he was open on and attempting to work he will be faulted. Failure to open for 8 minutes will be considered quitting.
- D) Handling Issues - If dog cannot be caught to be handled at tree, truck or in the woods, it shall receive a fault. If the dog bites any participant, it shall receive a fault.
- E) Leaving Tree / Milling Around - Inspectors should give plenty of leniency in regard to treeing style. However, dogs that leave tree will be faulted as will dogs that are off the tree showing a lack of serious interest in treeing.
- F) Failed To Hunt - Dogs are required to make an honest effort to go hunting alone. Failure to do so will result in a fault.

6. Owner/Handler Sportsmanship Disqualification - Inspectors may be asked questions regarding their evaluation in the field. If at any time the tone gets confrontational, inspectors are instructed to immediately fail the dog.

Should a handler disagree with an evaluation, they may submit a written explanation of their disagreement to UKC within 7 days. UKC will review prior to recording evaluation.

7. Electronic Devices Prohibited. Training collar may be worn, but transmitter must be left at vehicle. No electronic squallers. Tracking collars are permitted with no restrictions on their use during the test. No other electronic devices besides a hunting light may be used.

8. Taking Game Prohibited. Individuals found guilty of taking any game or damaging any dens or trees will be dealt with under the Inherent Rights and Powers of United Kennel Club. Additionally, state and local laws must always be followed.

9. Inspectors. It is not permissible for individuals to inspect each other's dogs on a given night.

10. Assistance. Individuals needing assistance may utilize personal transportation during hunt test.

---

## UKC® Slam Events® Official Rules

*Effective January 1, 2020*

1. Slam Events are available to all UKC approved clubs. Clubs may designate any of their scheduled dates for a Slam Event. Simply note the Slam designation portion on the Event Confirmation form. A regular bench show may be held in conjunction with a Slam Event.

2. Entry Fees: Clubs have the option of a 1) \$25 or; 2) \$35 entry fee (unless otherwise approved).

3. Eligibility for Events: Open to all United Kennel Club Registered Coonhounds.

4. Rules for Running the Events: Open Registered dogs compete in their own category under registered rules. Nite Champions and Grand Nite Champions draw out together and run under Championship rules in effect for the year the event is run, with special revisions as required.

6. Hunting Time: The early round cast on any given night may be 60, 90 or 120 minutes in duration, as designated by the club. A late round cast on given night will be one hour in duration. NOTE: Double Header Slam Events (two in one night) may only be 60 or 90-minute hunts, as designated by the club. Final Cast payouts are a mandatory split at Double Header Slam Events. A final cast hunt is not an option.

7. Judges: One Hunting Judge per cast in the preliminary round. The late round (Final Cast) will have one (1) or two (2) Non-hunting Judges (clubs discretion).

8. Prize money: Refer to Payout Form for total payout, as determined by number of total entries. First, all first-round plus point cast winners are awarded amount of entry fee. Remaining prize money is awarded to those dogs in the final cast. Prize money will be paid by the host club in accordance with the Slam Prize Breakdown Form (provided in the event packet) at the conclusion of the event. The distribution of Slam prize money is strictly the responsibility of the host club and not the responsibility of United Kennel Club. UKC reserves the right to set prize amounts and control distribution of

prize money at its sole judgment and discretion.

9. Final Cast: The top four (4) cast winners with a total score of plus points will advance to final round. Dogs in the final cast will be placed according to total score, including up to 400 minus. If tie cannot be broken, dogs remaining tied will split prize money. If all dogs in Final Cast scratch, purse will be divided equally among all members of the cast. See Slam Prize Breakdown Form (provided in the event packet) for other scratched dog breakdowns.

10. Splitting Prize Money: Slam prize money may only be split if majority of final cast agrees to do so. Otherwise, cast must hunt late round to determine prize money distribution. EXCEPTION: At Double Header Slam Events a hunt-off to determine prize money distribution is not an option, it is mandatory that those monies be split equally.

11. Championship Wins: All dogs winning their cast with a total score of plus points in the first round receive a win towards their championship degree. No win awarded to the winner of a Final Cast.

12. No Plus Point Cast Winners: Any round prior to the Final Round that eliminates all competition (no plus point cast winners) will be considered the Final Round and prize money will be divided equally between all hounds who participated in that round. No Championship points or wins will be awarded in the event there are no plus point cast winners in round one.

13. Event Placement: If the Final Cast hunts, placements will be awarded according to the scores of this cast, even if there is not a total score of plus points. If the Final Cast does not hunt it off, placements are decided according to first rounds scores.

---

## UKC Tournament Of Champions

Designed to boost UKC Coonhound club nite hunt entries by requiring five cast wins at UKC licensed nite hunts to qualify. \$200,000 total purse for the inaugural event in 2021; \$50,000 to the Overall first place winner. The first event will be open to those dogs who qualified throughout the 2020 calendar year and will be held in 2021. Complete details including event fees, dates, and locations as well as additional terms, conditions, and eligibility requirements at [ukcdogs.com](http://ukcdogs.com)

---

## Misconduct & Discipline

For current official UKC Misconduct & Guidelines please reference the official UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).

*Disclaimer: Any UKC Rules and or Policies as written in this rulebook are subject to change. Any such changes will be published in COONHOUND BLOODLINES and in the Rule Sections on the UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com)*



UKCDOGS.COM