

## **BLOODHOUND**

GROUP: Hound

### SIZE:

Average height for males is 26 inches, bitches 24 inches. The variance is from 25-27 inches for dogs and from 23-25 inches for bitches, but in either case, the greater height is preferred, provided that character and quality are not compromised. Weight of males, 90-110 pounds; females, 80-100 pounds. **The greater weights are preferred so long as quality and proportion are maintained, and the dog is in good condition.**

### COAT:

Skin is thin to the touch and extremely loose, especially in the head and neck area, where it hangs in deep folds

### COLOR & MARKINGS:

Acceptable colors are black and tan, red, red and tan, and tawny. The darker colors are sometimes interspersed with lighter or badger-colored hair and sometimes flecked with white. A small amount of white is permissible on the chest, feet, and tip of the tail.

### HEAD:

Head is narrow in proportion to length and long in proportion to the body, tapering slightly from the temples to the end of the muzzle, giving the appearance of being flattened at the sides and of being nearly equal in width throughout its entire length when viewed from above and from the front.

In profile, the upper outline of the skull is nearly the same plane as that of the foreface. The length of the head, from the rear part of the occiput to the end of the muzzle should be twelve inches or more in males and eleven inches or more in bitches. The length from the end of the nose to the stop, at the halfway point between the eyes, should not be less than the distance from the stop to the top of the occiput.

The skull is long and narrow, with the occipital peak being very defined; brows not prominent, but may appear so due the very deeply set eyes. The foreface is long, deep, and of even width, with a square profile.

In front, the lips fall squarely, forming a right angle with the upper line of the foreface. Behind they form deep, hanging flews, which continue into drooping folds of loose skin about the neck, making a very pronounced dewlap. These same characteristics are found to a lesser degree in bitches.

The expression should be noble and dignified. The head is furnished with a great deal of loose skin. When the head is carried low, this overabundance of skin is exaggerated, the skin falling into loose, drooping ridges and folds, especially over the forehead and sides of the face.

Eyes: Deeply sunken within the eye sockets; lids lozenge or diamond-shaped; lower lids dragged down and everted by the heavy flews. The eyes vary from deep hazel to yellow, depending on color. Hazel is preferred, but is seldom seen in red or red and tan dogs.

Ears: Thin, soft, long; attached very low, falling in graceful folds and well-twisted inwards.

Nose: Nostrils large and open.

Mouth: Full complement of strong, white teeth; scissor bite preferred, but level is accepted.

### NECK:

Neck is long.

BODY:

Strong back and loins; loins deep and slightly arched. Shoulders muscular and well-sloped backwards. The ribs are well sprung and the chest well let down between the forelegs, forming a deep keel.

FRONT & REAR QUARTERS:

Forelegs are straight and well-boned with the elbows squarely set

Hind legs have heavily muscled thighs and second thighs; hocks well bent and let down and squarely set.

Feet: strong and well knuckled up

Tail: Referred to as the “stern”; carried high, but not much curved over the back; set rather high; long; tapering; moderate amount of hair underneath.

MOVEMENT:

Elastic; swinging, and free. When gaiting, the tail is carried high, but not curled too much over the back.

TEMPERAMENT:

Extremely affectionate, neither quarrelsome with companions nor with other dogs; somewhat shy, but can be stubborn, so obedience work is recommended.

**Any departure from this standard should be considered a fault, and the final score should reflect the seriousness of the deviation from the standard**

*Disqualifications:*

**Viciousness or extreme shyness.**

**Albinism**

**Either or both testicles being not present or abnormal in intact males**