

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

THE STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER CLUB, INC. *Parent Club for the Breed in the United States*

Marilyn Shrewsberry, Membership Chairman
PO Box 482
Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328
e-mail: Mmarbull@aol.com

Judy Keller, Breeder Referral
PO Box 241
Freeland, WA 98249
(360) 331-3412
e-mail: obs@whidbey.com

Virginia Antia, National Rescue Coordinator
1495 Lake Avenue SE
Largo, FL 33771
(727) 585-2314
e-mail: Inkwood@aol.com

You can visit the Club's website on the Internet at:
<http://clubs.akc.org/sbtci>



EDUCATE YOURSELF BEFORE YOU INVEST

<http://clubs.akc.org/sbtci>
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club Inc.

AKC Parent Club

Sample magazine/member app/brochure: \$18 - USA Only
SBTCI / PO Box 241 / Freeland, WA 98249

MEET THE



STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER



the legendary courage and ferocity of the Bulldog, would incorporate the greater agility of the terrier.

Refinement

Terriers thought to have been used in the cross are the Manchester Terrier and the now-extinct English White Terrier. In addition, crosses with various of the old working terriers were made. Because of the attentions of different groups of English fanciers, two distinct types of Bull and Terrier arose and, by 1900, they were easily distinguished. James Hinks's elegant white dogs, produced by crossing the predecessor of the modern Bulldog with the English White Terrier (and some say Pointer and Dalmatian) were recognized by the Kennel Club (UK) and the American Kennel Club at the turn of the century. This "White Cavalier" is known today as the Bull Terrier.

The other Bull and Terrier — the Stafford, which was owned by the common man — was not as easily "legitimized." Fanciers of the "working class dog" met in England in 1935 to form a club for Staffordshire Bull Terrier fanciers and draw up a Breed Standard.

Recognition

In 1938, the first Championship points were awarded in Birmingham. The first two members of their sex to claim championships in England were the bitch, Ch. Lady Eve and the dog, Ch. Gentleman Jim in 1939.

The first Staffordshire Bull Terriers brought to the United States lived their lives out simply as companions; it was not until 1975 that The American Kennel Club recognized the Staffordshire Bull Terrier as a registerable breed that could be shown outside of the Miscellaneous Classes. The first Stafford to be registered in the American Kennel Club Stud Book was the English import, Ch. Tinkinswood Imperial. The first U.S. champion was a bitch, the Australian import, Ch. Northwark Becky Sharpe.

The Stafford is a well-kept secret: smart, healthy, rough and tumble, comfort-loving, and a family pet and chum without equal when properly trained and socialized.

Origins

Although there has been some discussion through the years about the origin of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, authorities generally agree that the breed can be traced back to the Mastiff-like dogs through the old Bulldog which, when crossed with British terriers, produced the first "Bull and Terriers." Books published in the early 1800s which refer to "Bull and Terriers," "Pit Dogs", and "Fighting Dogs" confirm that the cross existed then.

The old-fashioned Bulldog was a fierce, courageous animal used in the sports of bear- and bull-baiting as early as the mid-sixteenth century. When these sports fell from public favor and were outlawed, their supporters turned to dog fighting and sought to create a sporting dog that, while retaining

Characteristics and Temperament

Although individual differences in personality exist, there are some things that you can expect to find in the personality of every Stafford. They are tough, courageous, tenacious; stubborn, curious, people-loving and comfort-loving, protective, intelligent, active, quick and agile. They are extremely "oral" youngsters and need a safe alternative to furniture, toys and clothing for their busy jaws. Staffords love to play



tug-of-war and to roughhouse, but YOU must set the rules and YOU must be the boss. This is not a difficult task if you begin working with your Stafford when she is a puppy.

Most Staffords, particularly females, make excellent watchdogs. Their alert, musclebound appearance is so striking that it's easy to forget that they are smaller than most American Pit Bull Terriers and AmStaffs. As Steve Eltinge in the book, *The Staffordshire Bull Terrier in America* says, "When a Stafford shows its teeth in a snarl, it can be frightening." They look tough and can be a positive deterrent to thieves, but because of their natural fondness for people, most Staffords are temperamentally ill-suited for guard or attack-dog training.



As with other members of the Bull and Terrier family, they can be the biggest people lovers in the world!

A Staffordshire Bull Terrier desires, more than anything else, to be with her people. Most adore a car ride, going on hikes and walks, enjoying a romp up the beach, and cozying up (or on) to you when you settle down for an evening of TV or reading.

Whatever the activity, "from the time it awakens in the morning until the quiet of night, a Stafford lives life to the fullest."

Care and Training

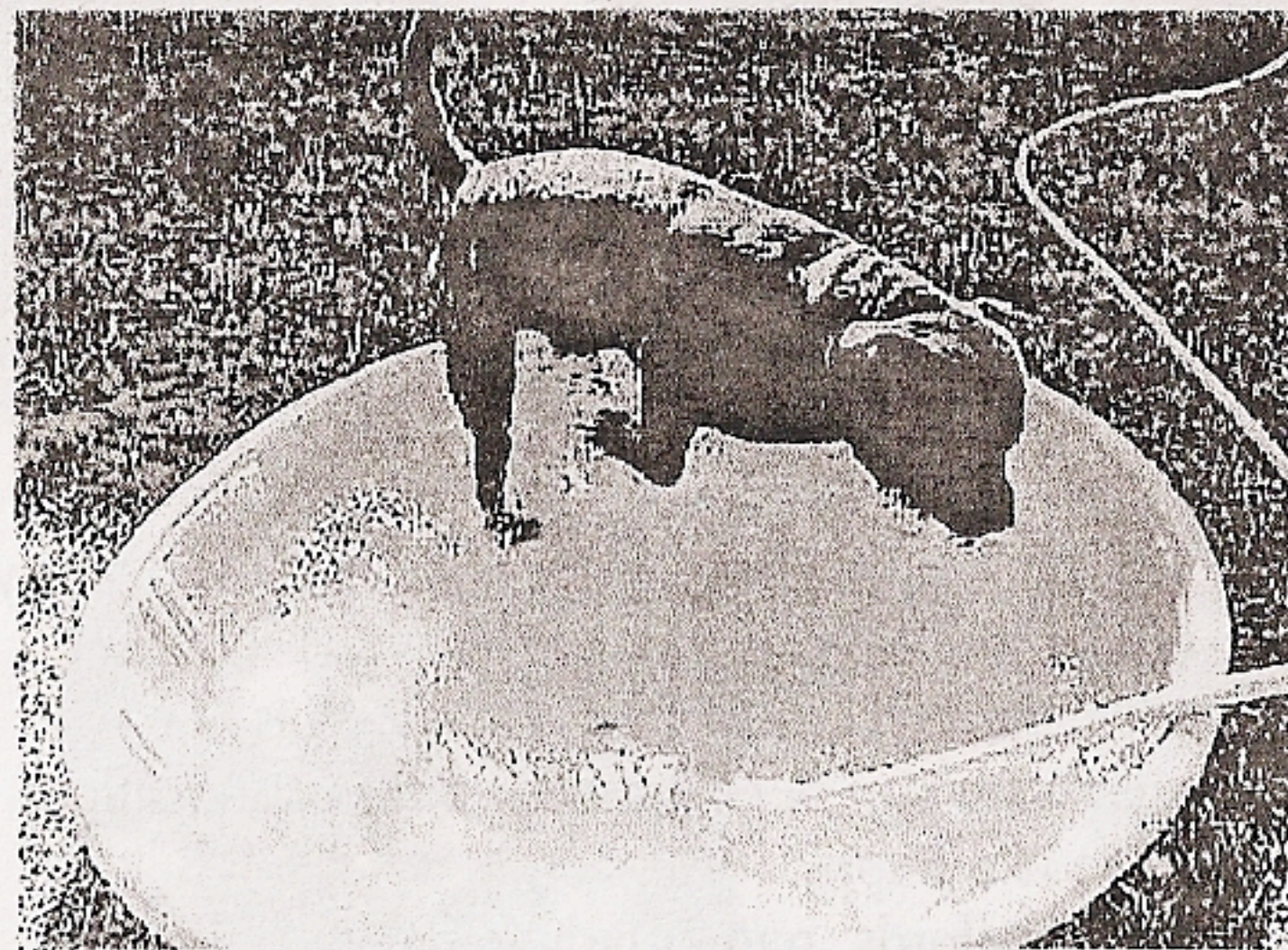
Staffordshire Bull Terriers are a "natural" dog and generally robust. The short coat of this breed requires little grooming other than an occasional brushing and a bath.

Care of nails, ears, teeth and anal glands are the same as they would be for any other breed (beginning when young and attention on a regular basis).

The Stafford is not a dog that tolerates weather extremes easily.



Because of its short coat, it prefers plenty of shade and water on sweltering summer days (a child's wading pool has been a popular choice in the past; supervised of course). Its Bulldog ancestry and brachycephalic (short-headed or broad-headed)



respiratory system can contribute to overheating. Watch carefully to be sure that your Stafford doesn't become overheated during intense play in the summer; if she appears to be wheezing or gasping for air, find the nearest source of cold water and soak her to lower her body temperature.

Staffordshire Bull Terriers can boast a number of obedience, agility and flyball degrees and are "quick studies,"

provided the trainer utilizes a positive, creative approach. Staffords are smart with a capital S. Young puppies enrolled in Kindergarten Puppy Training classes can begin to learn good habits and mix with other puppies. In addition to AKC obedience competition, Staffords have been successful Therapy Dogs, and even "gone to ground" with other terriers!



Staffords are exuberant, impulsive, sometimes bull-headed ... and surprisingly sensitive. A trainer must learn to be persistent, patient, and firm. Rome wasn't built in a day and a great deal of ground may be lost in trying to adhere to the sort of inflexible techniques and rigid timeframe advocated by some training books.

Basic obedience training (at the very least) is a must for any Bull and Terrier. It helps to maintain control in unexpected situations. Because of their impulsive natures, the other cardinal rule of Bull and Terrier ownership is "always think ahead." An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

Frequently Asked Questions

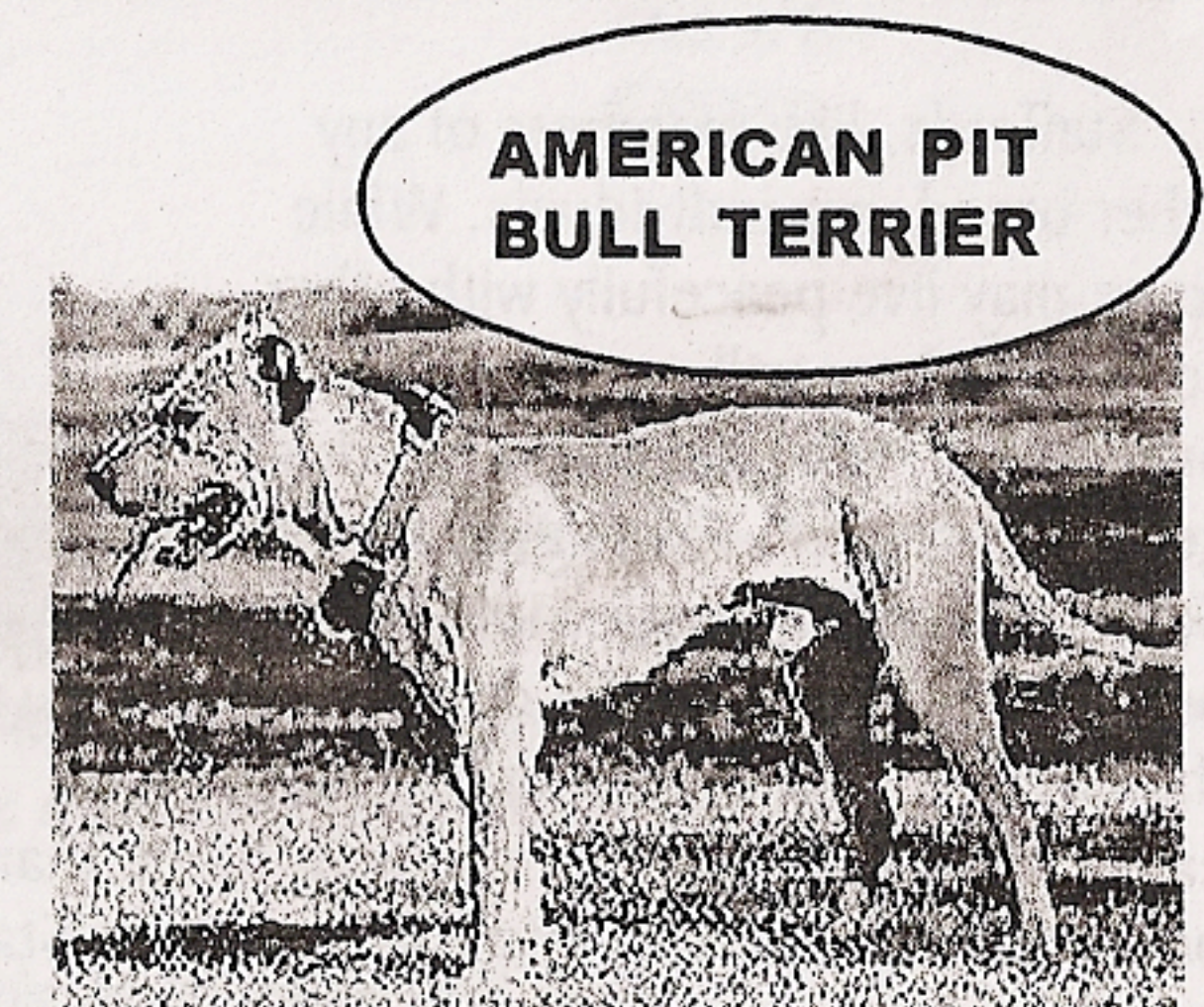
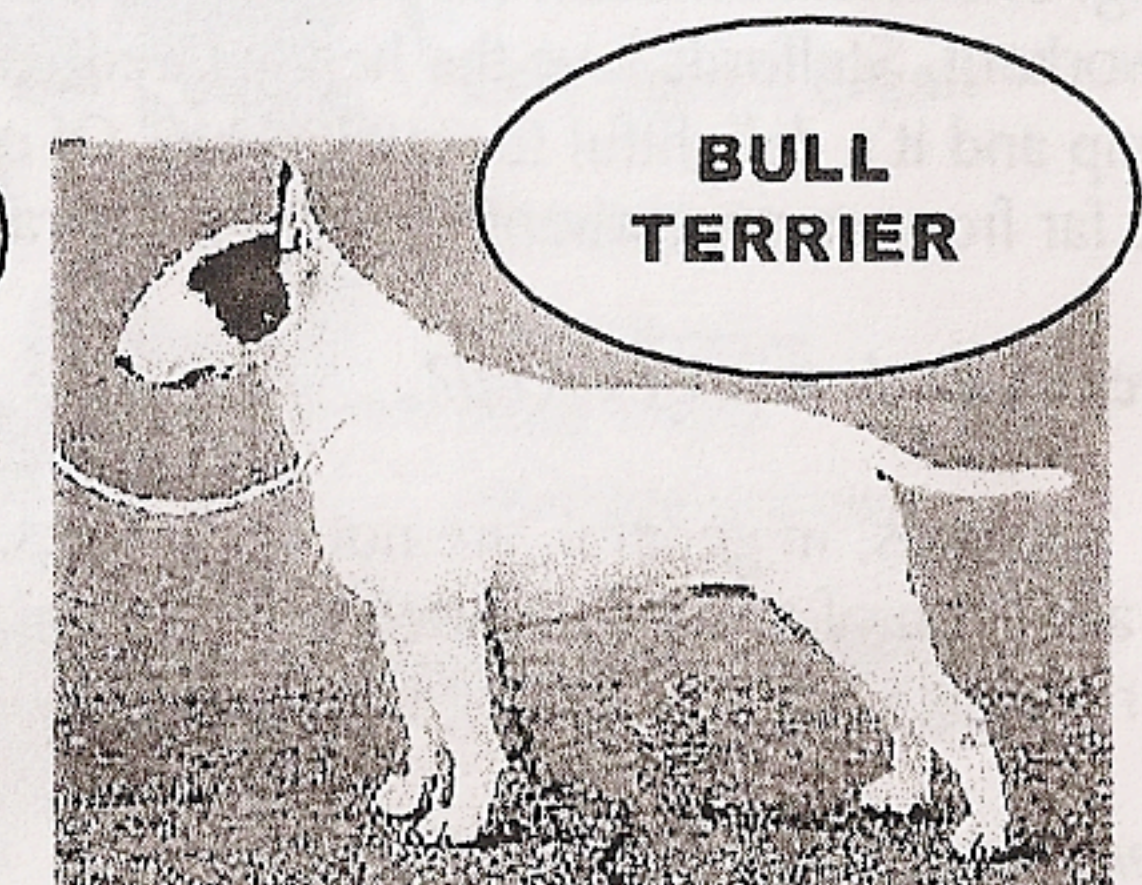
What's the difference between an (American) Staffordshire Terrier and a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, (English) Bull Terrier or Pit Bull Terrier?

Some eight or nine varieties of dogs come within the general classification of Bull Breeds. Although all lay claim to the Bulldog as a common ancestor, there are physical differences that make each distinct from the other:

Size - The American Staffordshire Terrier is a much larger, leggier dog - about 19" at the shoulder, it is an average of 3" taller than the Stafford! The Bull Terrier standard does not include height and weight restrictions, however, the breed usually weighs in between 40 and 55 pounds; heavier than the in-standard Stafford. Pit Bull Terriers also range widely in size; American Pit Bull Terriers which are registered and exhibited at non-AKC shows seem to run on the smaller side. Others, dually registered as American Staffordshire Terriers with the AKC are larger.

Ears - A majority of American Staffordshire Terriers in the United States are shown with cropped ears, as are some Pit Bull Terriers. The ears of the Bull Terrier are naturally erect. Stafford ears should be "rose" (like those of an English Bulldog or Greyhound) or half-pricked.

Head - The heads of American Staffordshire Terriers, Pit Bulls and Staffordshire Bull Terriers are similar, although the cheek muscles on most Staffords seem to be more pronounced, and the head deeper through. The head of the Bull Terrier is entirely different. When viewed in profile, it resembles an egg turned on its side and is much longer than that of the Stafford. The cheeks of a Bull Terrier are not pronounced.





How are Staffordshire Bull Terriers with children?

In England, the Stafford is known by the affectionate nickname, "The Children's Nursemaid" or "The Nanny Dog." Their tolerance of, and affection for, children is well known. That doesn't mean, however, that it's a wise idea of put the puppy and child together without supervision. Children should learn to

respect the dog and neither should indulge in play that is too rough. Some Staffords - even the males - have a "mothering instinct" and will stick right by the little ones, whether they are puppies or kids. A Stafford, "tough" and not as quick to react to pain or discomfort, is likely to make allowance for the attentions of toddler, finding a refuge only when things become too overwhelming.

Can I keep a Staffordshire Bull Terrier in an Apartment? How much exercise will she require?

Staffords can make a home with you anywhere; they are happy as long as they are with you. They are an athletic dog, however, and need more exercise than most dogs. A long, brisk walk on leash (or harness - a useful alternative for some) will give you both a workout. Staffords love the heady freedom of being allowed offlead for a run, hike or romp and it's delightful to watch them. Of course, it's best to allow this only when you are far from an area where dangerous distractions are likely to arise.

Are Staffords a noisy breed?

Staffords, in general, are not noisy dogs. They may bark or "talk" while playing, or to alert you of a visitor. However, they are "quick studies" and if you have another dog in residence and THAT dog is a barker, your Stafford will probably pick it up.

Can I keep a Staffordshire Bull Terrier with another dog or with a cat?

Staffords, like members of any other breed, are individuals. While some may live peacefully with other animals, others will not. Puppies brought up with cats and other dogs generally do well. If bringing an older Staffordshire Bull Terrier into your home, first introduce the dogs away from the house in a neutral area. It should be easier to bring a Stafford into your home than bringing a strange dog into the home of a Stafford. Encounters should be supervised.



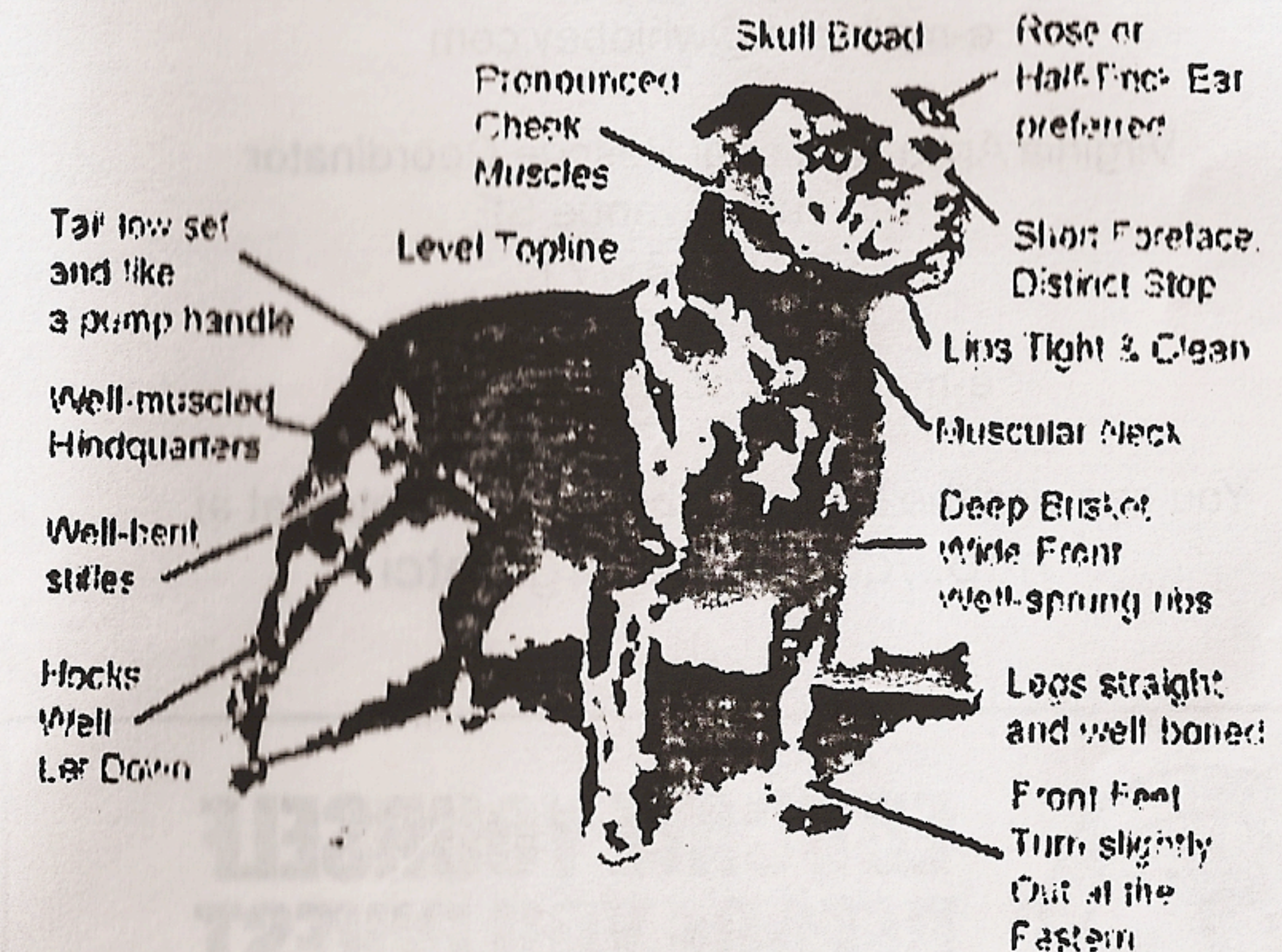
Should I consider a male or a female?

Both will offer much love and affection. Females tend to be better watchdogs; males tend to be larger. No matter which sex you select, spay or neuter if you have decided not to breed or exhibit your Stafford.

What sorts of toys are safe to give my Stafford?

There are no such things as "indestructible dog toys" for Bull and Terrier breeds. But some have tried these: Gallies, nylabones, and Boomer Balls. Anything else might be chewed up, swallowed or destroyed in short order.

FEATURES OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER AS DESCRIBED IN THE AKC BREED STANDARD



"From the past history of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier the modern dog draws its character of indomitable courage, high intelligence, and tenacity. This, coupled with its affection for its friends, and children in particular, its off-duty quietness, and trustworthy stability, makes it a foremost all-purpose dog."

--- AKC Standard for the Staffordshire Bull Terrier