



TRIPLE CROWN CHAMPION

- Winter Classic – 50 points for each cast win. Max 100 points.
- Autumn Oaks – 50 points for a cast win. No points for Grand 16 cast wins. Max 50 points.
- World Championship Zones – 25 points for each cast win. Max 50 points.
- World Championship Finals – 10 points for each cast win. No points for late round Friday. Max 40 points.

GRNITECH(3) 'PR' BOTTOMLAND GALCHO

Owned by Chad McCain and Brad Hile • Hartford City, Indiana

Birthdate: March 21, 2021 • Sire: GRNITECH(5) 'PR' BLACK RIVER PONCHO • Dam: 'PR' TWIGGS BLACK RIVER BEE

The UKC Triple Crown Challenge, sponsored by United Kennel Club, rewards the outstanding coonhound who earns the most Triple Crown points at the Winter Classic, Autumn Oaks, and the World Championship. The winner receives \$3,000 and a jacket courtesy of UKC. A dog must have participated in all three events to be eligible for the award.

After the first leg of the Triple Crown, the double cast winners at the Winter Classic held in Batesville, Mississippi would set the pace for the 2024 Triple Crown Challenge. Four Black & Tans, one Bluetick, six English, one Plott, one Redbone, and twelve Treeing Walkers made up the 25 frontrunners, all tied with 100 Triple Crown points.

Then came the second leg at Autumn Oaks in Richmond, Indiana. Out of the 25 double cast winners at Winter Classic, only eight hounds were able to add a cast win and 50 points to their resume at Oaks. Those eight hounds were 1) GRNITECH(3) 'PR' Bottomland Galcho, B&T, M, 3, Chad McCain, Brad Hile, Hartford City, IN, 2) GRNITECH 'PR' Coon Creek Blue Gypsy, ENG, F, 5, Shane Hutcheson, Zach Maxey, Mansfield, OH, 3) NITECH 'PR' 7-Oaks Hardtime Stella 2, ENG, F, 1, Berle Shoulders, Sumner, IL, 4) GRNITECH(3) 'PR' June Bug's Joy, TW, F, 8, Rocky Baskerville, Portland, TN, 5) NITECH 'PR' Milk Money, TW, M, 7, Mike Guthrie, Mitchell, IN, 6) GRNITECH(3) 'PR' Rose's Wild Dreamin Echo, TW, M, 5, Logan Rose, Logan Estridge, Randy Sizemore, McKee, KY, 7) GRNITECH 'PR' Myers-Sullivan Milly, TW, F, 3, Haskell Myers, Doan Sullivan, Spencer, TN, and 8) NITECH 'PR' 4X 007, TW, M, 2, Trystan Short, Logan Williams, Mountain Grove, MO. At this point, there were 19 other hounds tied with 100 points that were still within striking distance going into the last leg of the yearly series.

Just two weeks later, the five Treeing Walker hounds, two English hounds, and the lone Black and Tan were heading into the third and final leg of the Triple Crown, the World Championship, starting with the Zones. As we sometimes see in this points race, there were five hounds eliminated from the race by not qualifying for the Zones during the year. Having said that, there would be a lot of eyes on the three remaining hounds tied for first, Galcho who was entered into the Quincy, Michigan Zone, Echo who was entered into the Rogersville, Tennessee Zone, and Stella who was entered into the Flora, Illinois Zone.

As results rolled in from Michigan on Friday of the Zones, Galcho was first on the board with a 725+ cast win, which not only gave him 175 points, but also put him in good position to advance to the Finals. Echo and Stella both lost their Friday night casts, putting them behind in the race. Saturday night would be different. Stella was not hunted on Saturday ending her year coming up just a little short. Galcho had a good cast, ending with 500+ but came up a little short on his cast. Down in Tennessee, news came in that Echo had won his cast tying the race. However, the 150+ cast win would be short of the points required to advance to the Finals, which in the Tennessee Zone which had a cutoff score of 200+. Galcho and Echo were deadlocked with 175 points and Galcho was heading to the World Finals.

When dogs are tied, the first tiebreaker according to the rules on the website is to go by highest total amount of plus points accrued in the dog's wins at the Triple Crown events during the year. So even if Galcho didn't win another cast, he had the lead on tiebreaker over Echo because of the dominating year he had at the Winter Classic, Autumn Oaks, and Zones, accruing 3,150+ points in his four cast wins. Those four wins were: 1,025+ on Friday at Winter Classic, 550+ on Saturday at Winter Classic, 850+ at Autumn Oaks, and 725+ on Friday night at the Zones.

There was however, one dog with an outside shot to make a run. NITECH 'PR' Voodoo Child, a Treeing Walker owned by Ashley Dalton of West Virginia had positioned himself to at least be in striking distance. With double cast wins at Winter Classic and double cast wins at the Jefferson, Ohio Zone, Voodoo had earned 150 points. That meant that

Galcho could sew it up with one cast win at the Finals. However, if Galcho lost his First-Round cast and Voodoo made a run to the Final Cast of the World Championship, that 30-point swing would change our winner. Voodoo was drawn onto Cast 1 and Galcho drew Cast 2. As the scorecards started rolling in, Voodoo and Galcho both fell a little short of advancing to Round 2, ending the race and making Galcho the 2024 Triple Crown Champion!

Congratulations to Chad McCain and Brad Hile on their accomplishment with GRNITECH(3) 'PR' Bottomland Galcho – the 2024 UKC Triple Crown Champion. They join the following elite group of hounds and owners who have won this award:

- **2000** – GRNITECH 'PR' Blue River Droop JR. – Bluetick male, owned by Steve Burkholder & Jerry McAvoy of Mt. Gilead, Ohio
- **2001** – NITECH GRCH 'PR' Thompsons Hillbilly Pepper – English female, owned by Chad Butcher or Dean C Thompson of Brookville, Indiana
- **2002** – GRCH GRNITECH 'PR' Black Creek Doc – Treeing Walker Male, owned by Kevin Phillips and BT Love of Columbus, Georgia
- **2003** – GR NITECH 'PR' Bingo's Northern Blue Dancer – Bluetick male, owned by Ron Taylor of Gosport, Indiana
- **2004** – GR NITE CH CH 'PR' Green Rough River Bobbie Jo Angel – Black and Tan female, owned by Ted Froderman of Brazil, IN
- **2005** – GR NITECH 'PR' Vickers Hawks Red Storm – Redbone male, owned by Shane Marcyes of Eagle Bend, Minnesota
- **2006** – CH GRNITE CH 'PR' Mead's Blue Jet 8 – Bluetick male, owned by Daniel J. Glista of Berlin Center, Ohio and Ed Mead of Albion, Michigan
- **2007** – CH GRNITECH 'PR' Doc's Honest Abe – Treeing Walker male, owned by Kevin Phillips and B.T. Love of Columbus, Georgia
- **2008** – CH GRNITECH 'PR' Boogar Hollow Mojo – Treeing Walker male, owned by Robert Raxter of Brevard, North Carolina
- **2009** – CH GRNITECH 'PR' Boogar Hollow Mojo, Treeing Walker male, owned by Robert Raxter or Scott Engle of Hillsboro, Ohio
- **2010** – GR NITECH GRCH 'PR' Deanwoods Hali – Treeing Walker female, owned by Logan or Mollie Burdwell of Buena Vista, Georgia
- **2011** – GRCH GRNITECH 'PR' R&R's Cutter Cain, Treeing Walker male, owned by William and Doug Read of Austin, Kentucky
- **2012** – GRCH GRNITECH 'PR' Hailes Red River – English male, owned by Jody or Penny Jessup of Rural Hall, North Carolina
- **2013** – GRNITECH GRCH 'PR' Bad To The Bones Black Hawk – Black & Tan male, owned by Dean Miller or Timothy Waters of Berlin, Ohio.
- **2014** – GRNITECH 'PR' Barton's Craz Albany – English female, owned by Jacob Barton of Middlesboro, KY.
- **2015** – GRCH GRNITECH 'PR' Hamlins Davie Crocket HTX – Bluetick male, owned by Eddie Harp and Larry Hamlin of Stigler, OK
- **2016** – GRNITECH 'PR' Handsome Tucker – Treeing Walker male, owned by Nick Brady and Phil Peterson of Buckhannon, WV
- **2017** – GRCH GRNITECH 'PR' White Oak Wipeout Jim – Treeing Walker male, owned by Wesley Hastings and Johnny Brown of Jasper, AL
- **2018** – GRNITECH 'PR' KY River Superman – Black & Tan male, owned by Micah Ayers of McKee, KY
- **2019** – GRNITECH(3) 'PR' Sheppards Northern Blue Punkin – Bluetick female, owned by Michael Sheppard of Paragon, IN
- **2020** – NITECH 'PR' Kaskaskia River Blue Molly – Bluetick female, owned by Mark VanDeventer of Sullivan, IL
- **2021** – NITECH 'PR' Stylish Slide – Treeing Walker male, owned by William Wood and Justin Wallace of Lexington, TN
- **2022** – NITECH 'PR' Indian Creek Nova – English female, owned by Gregory Wallace of Randolph, AL
- **2023** – GRNITECH 'PR' Willy's Little Ann – Treeing Walker female, owned by Ellis Keen of London, KY