WELSH HOUND
Official UKC Breed Standard

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 Welsh Hound is also known as the Welsh Foxhound
and Welsh Bytheuad. It is an ancient breed, thought to
be descended from the extinct Celtic Hound and the old
Staghound. Organized Hunts have kept well-known
packs of pure Welsh Hounds for nearly 200 years.

The Welsh Hound was recognized by the United
Kennel Club January 1, 2006.

GENERAL APPEARANCE
The typical Welsh Hound is a low-scenting dog, with
good shoulders, and a talkative, “loud” bark, being a
prerequisite of hunting in the windy Welsh hillsides.

CHARACTERISTICS
Sturdy, independent hunters, self-reliant in the rugged
and rocky Welsh hills. Intelligent, loyal and happy.

HEAD
TEETH - The Welsh Hound has a complete set of evenly
spaced, white teeth meeting in a scissors bite.
SKULL - The skull is slightly domed at the occiput. The
cranium is broad and full. The stop is moderately
defined.
MUZZLE - The straight, square cut muzzle is of fair
length.
EARS - The long ears are set on moderately low, are
almost absent of any erectile power, and set close to
the head.

NECK
The neck is long, slightly arched and well developed
without being coarse.

FOREQUARTERS
The long, well-sloped shoulders are well clothed with
muscle, especially at the points, without being heavy.
FORELEGS - The forearm is long and muscular, but free
from fat or lumber. The well-let-down elbows are set
quite straight, and turn neither in nor out. The forelegs
are long, straight and well boned down to the feet. The
pasterns are strong.

BODY
The chest is deep and the ribs are well sprung. The back
is broad and level and there is a slight rise over the
strong loin.

HINDQUARTERS
The hindquarters are powerful and muscular.
HIND LEGS - The hind legs are well boned down to the
feet. There is moderate turn of stifles. The hocks are well
let down.

FEET
Round, tight, strong and well padded.

TAIL
Well set on high, carried gaily but never curled over the
back.

COAT
Rough and dense; of medium length. Occasionally
smooth.

COLOR
Black, fawn, red, tan, white and mixed.
HEIGHT & WEIGHT
Height: 24 inches.
Weight: 70 to 75 pounds

GAIT
Free striding and tireless, with the ability to gallop. Strong drive from behind with no tendency to roll.

DISQUALIFICATIONS
(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a conformation event, and must be reported to UKC.)
Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.
Viciousness or extreme shyness.
Albinism.
Undershot bite.
Overshot bite.