

IRISH WOLFHOUND

GROUP: Hound

SIZE:

Males, Minimum height is 32 inches for mature males; for females 30 inches. Minimums apply to dogs and bitches over 18 months of age. Males, Minimum weight for males is 120 pounds; for females 105 pounds. The largest and tallest of the coursing hounds, height and weight should be in proportion to give the appearance of power, activity, courage, and symmetry.

COAT:

Rough and hard on body, legs, and head; especially wiry over the eyes and on the underjaw.

COLOR:

Recognized colors are gray, brindle, black, pure white, red, fawn, and any other color acceptable for the Deerhound.

HEAD:

Long, level head carried high. Frontal bones of forehead are very slightly raised, with very little indentation between the eyes. The skull is not too broad. The long muzzle is moderately pointed. **Faults: Head too light or too heavy; frontal bone too highly arched; liver colored lips; lack of pigmentation.**

Eyes: Eyes are dark..

Ears: Small and Greyhound-like in carriage, thrown back and folded. **Faults: Large ears; ears hanging flat to the fact.**

Nose: Dark nose. **Faults: Liver-colored nose; lack of pigmentation.**

NECK:

Rather long, very strong and muscular, well-arched, without dewlap or loose skin about the throat. **Faults: Short neck; full dewlaps.**

BODY:

Very deep and moderately broad. The rib cage is long, with the ribs well sprung. Belly is well drawn up. Topline is long rather than short and not overly straight. **Faults: Chest too narrow or too broad; back too straight; sunken or hollow back; short body.**

FOREQUARTERS:

Muscular, sloping shoulders are set to provide breadth to the chest. Forelegs are strong, quite straight and heavily boned. Elbows are set well under and forearm is muscular.

HINDQUARTERS:

Both upper and lower thighs are muscular, with lower thigh being long and strong as found in the Greyhound. In the hind legs, the hocks are well let down, turning neither in nor out. Stifles are nicely bent.

Feet: Moderately large and round, neither inwards nor outwards. Toes well arched and closed with nails that are very strong and curved.

Tail: Long, carried with an upward sweep and slight curve toward the end; of moderate thickness and well covered with hair.

MOVEMENT:

Movement is easy and active.

TEMPERAMENT:

Intelligent, strong, and courageous as befits a guardian, hunter, and war dog.

Maintenance of breed type is of prime importance. They are of great size, with a commanding appearance, very muscular and strong, yet gracefully built, with easy and active movement. The following is a list of the points of the breed. No single point is to be exaggerated or diminished at the expense of the total breed standard:

- Breed Type: A rough-coated, Greyhound-like breed. The tallest of the coursing hounds, with a remarkable combination of power and swiftness. Great size and commanding appearance.
- Easy and active movement.
- Long and level head, carried high.
- Heavily boned, straight forelegs, elbows set well under.
- Long and muscular thighs, well muscled second thighs, nicely bent stifles.
- Rough, hard coat, especially wiry and long over the eyes and on the underjaw.
- Long, well-ribbed-up body; well sprung ribs; wide across the hips.
- Arched loins; belly well drawn up.
- Small ears, carried thrown back and folded (as a Greyhound.)
- Moderately large, round feet; close, well-arched toes.
- Long, well-arched, very strong neck.
- Very deep, moderately broad chest.
- Muscular, sloping shoulders.
- Long, slightly curved tail.
- Dark eyes.

***Faults:* Too heavy or light a head; too highly arched frontal bone; large ears and hanging flat to the face; short neck; full dewlap; too narrow or too broad a chest; sunken or hollow or quite straight back; bent forelegs; overbent fetlocks; twisted feet; spreading toes; too curly a tail; weak hindquarters and a general lack of muscle tone; too short in body; lips or nose liver-colored or lacking pigmentation.**

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.

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid