Saluki Club of America

AKC Color Registration Options Illustrated

SCOA Color Committee

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Introduction

The purpose of this discussion is to illustrate the various colors and patterns of salukis currently seen in the AKC gene pool and how those colors and patterns would be registered with the current choices offered on the AKC registration form.
This is a copy of the current AKC Saluki registration color and pattern choices

- One color must be selected and up to one marking may be selected.
Phenotype is what the registration choices should reflect

- It is important to understand that there is a major difference between the appearance of an animal (called its phenotype) and its genetic makeup (called its genotype). Most commonly encountered discussions of canine coat color are basically phenotypic, as in most cases we can only describe the colors that we see in the dog in front of us.
The Colors

- The color choices offered are a combination of those colors specifically cited in the AKC Saluki Breed Standard plus those colors currently seen in the AKC Saluki gene pool that are not listed in the AKC Standard.
- Colors listed in the Standard: White, cream, fawn, golden, red, grizzle and tan, tricolor (white, black and tan) and black and tan
- Additional choices: Silver, chocolate, black, chocolate and tan, and black and silver
The Patterns “Markings”

- If the dog is Solid, then no marking should be selected. Solid is understood to be the default pattern.
- Pattern choices are: Grizzle, Irish-Marked, Parti-Colored, and Sable.
- Combinations of patterns are offered as markings choices as you can choose only 1 marking and 1 color from the choices on the registration form.
Solid

- The dog is predominantly one color (or in the case of black/tan, black/silver, or chocolate/tan predominantly bi-colored) with no distinctive patterning.
- The dog may sport small patches of white on the feet, tail tip, ‘Kiss of Allah’, small chest patch, etc. and still be considered a ‘Solid’.
Irish-Marked

- Full or partial white collar marking always present.
- An otherwise solid colored dog with significant white patterning on the extremities - typical patterns including long ‘opera glove’ white socks, white tail tip, large white chest marking, white face blaze.
- At the point where the white markings significantly break into the body of the dog, the dog would be considered Parti-Colored.
Parti-Colored

- Varying number of colored patches or splotches on a white background.
- The colored area might predominate over the white of the body, as in pie-bald parti-color or the dog may be predominantly white with few colored markings, as in extreme white parti-color.
Irish Marked vs Parti Colored

- Irish-marked (L)
- Parti-colored (C)
- Irish-marked (R)
Sable

- Formerly known as ‘Black Fringed’.
- Pups are born a solid dark color at birth and lighten into their pattern. Body overlay may deepen upon maturity.
- Typical pattern includes black (or in liver pigmented specimens, chocolate) ear fringes, dorsal stripe at some stages, sometimes a sooty mask on the muzzle, dark overlay over body color, widow’s peak face mask. The expression of sabling may be light shown in dark edging on the ears over an otherwise solid-looking body or may be extreme with a heavy dark overlay.
- Some adult Sables appear similar to Grizzlies. Sables typically have a solid hair shaft with a dark tip, as opposed to banded hairs.
Sable Development

- (L) At birth, in the whelping box
- (R) As a 2 year old
Sable Development

- (L) At 8 weeks old
- (R) As a 7 year old
Grizzle

- Also seen as ‘domino’ in afghans and a common pattern in malamutes and huskies. Black, grey/silver (or in liver pigmented specimens, chocolate) overlay over a lighter colored body base color. Typical base colors are red, fawn, golden, cream, and silver/white. Widow’s peak patterning on the face is typical.
- Pups are born with the distinctive pattern at birth.
- Overlay color of black, grey/silver, or chocolate may vary in intensity with weather/seasons/age.
- Hair shafts are typically banded.
Grizzle Development
Grizzle Development

- (L) @ 7 weeks old
- (R) as an adult
Sables or Grizzlies???

Widow’s peak face markings occur in both patterns.
Examples

- Black and Tan
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Black and Tan and White
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Black and Tan
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Black and Tan
- Parti-Colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Black and Tan
- Parti-Colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Black and Tan
- Irish-Marked
- Smooth
Examples

- (L) Black and Silver
- (R) Black and Tan
- Both Solid
- Both Feathered
Examples

- Black and Silver
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Black and Silver
- Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Black
- Irish-Marked
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Red
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Parti-colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Sable
- Smooth
Examples

- Red
- Sable
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Sable
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Sabled
- Feathered
Examples

- Red
- Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Golden
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Golden
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Golden
- Parti-Colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Golden
- Grizzle
- Smooth
Examples

- Golden
- Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Fawn
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Fawn
- Irish-Marked Sable
- Feathered
Examples

- Fawn
- Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Fawn
- Sabled
- Feathered
Examples

- Chocolate and Tan
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Chocolate
- Irish-marked
- Feathered
Examples

- Chocolate
- Parti-Colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Chocolate
- Sable
- Feathered
Examples

- Cream
- Solid
- Smooth
Examples

- Cream
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Cream
- Solid
- Feathered
Examples

- Cream
- Irish-Marked Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Silver
- Grizzle
- Feathered
Examples

- Silver
- Grizzle Parti-Colored
- Feathered
Examples

- Silver
- Grizzle Parti-Colored
- Feathered