

SOMALI – 63L & 63S

General Type Standard

The Somali should be a beautifully balanced cat of medium build and foreign type; the head to be broad and curving to a firm wedge set on an elegant neck; the body to be firm, lithe and muscular of medium length, tail fairly long and gently tapering. The head, body, legs, feet and tail should be in proportion, giving a well-balanced appearance with no exaggerated features. The expression should be alert and smiling. The cat should be in excellent physical condition with good weight for its size.

Head - A moderate wedge with brow, cheek and profile lines showing gently rounded contours. There should be a slight rise from the bridge of the nose to the forehead which should be high with good width between the ears. From the front, a shallow indentation should form the muzzle. In profile, a slight nose break is essential, a firm chin and an elegant neck.

Ears - Set wide apart but not low, broad at the base, proportionately large, pricked well-cupped and tufted. Inner edges well furnished with long hair.

Eyes - Large, almond-shaped, set obliquely and well apart, expressive and bright. Accentuated by a dark surround encircled by lighter coloured “spectacles”. Short dark “pencil” lines at either edge of the eye, the inner one vertical, the outer one pointing towards the ear. Colour: amber, hazel or green: the richer and deeper the better.

Body - Firm, lithe and muscular of medium size, foreign type with a level back.

Legs and Feet - Long legs. Feet oval with tufts between the toes on the 63L.

Tail –

63L Long, well furnished, broad at the base and tapering slightly with a full brush. Length to balance with the body.

63S Long, thick at the base and tapering slightly to a rounded tip. Length to balance with the body.

Coat –

63L Soft and fine, dense but lying flat along the spine. Semi- long, except over the shoulders where a shorter length is permitted. All other points being equal, preference should be given to the cat with a ruff and full breeches. Ruff and breeches may not be apparent in kittens.

63S A coat of medium length that is smooth, fine and dense but close lying. The coat will be of fairly uniform length with no ruff, toe tufts, breeches or brush.

A coarse or overly resilient coat in the shorthaired Somali is to be considered a serious fault.

Colour and Pattern - Ticking is the essence of the Somali coat. On the 63L there should be at least three bands on every hair, i.e. six contrasting colour sections from base hair to tip. On the 63S there should be at least two bands on every hair i.e. four contrasting colour sections from base hair to tip. On both coat lengths the roots should be the colour of the base hair and the final band must be the ticking colour.

Ticking is slow to develop but should be apparent at least on the shoulders of all kittens.

Ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels are the same colour as the ticking. Darker shading along the spine and top of tail is desirable.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches are the colour of the unmarked base hair.

Depth of colour in sex-linked colours may not be achieved in kittens or young cats as this develops with maturity.

Withhold all Awards for:

1. White locket or white patches anywhere except around the chin, lips and nostrils.
2. Absence of ticking in adults.
3. Unbroken necklace.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for:

1. Cobby or oriental type.
2. Pinched or fine muzzle.
3. Straight profile or stop.
4. Absence of facial markings
5. Incorrectly coloured heels. (Heel colour in silvers may not extend to the hock).
6. Severe barring on legs, body or tail.
7. A coarse or overly resilient coat in shorthaired Somalis.
8. Any defects as listed in the Preface to the SOP booklet.

SCALE OF POINTS – 63L

Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ears	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Eyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Legs and Feet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Coat - Colour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
- Ticking	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
- Texture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
- Length	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

Total 100

SCALE OF POINTS – 63S

Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ears	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Eyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Legs and Feet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Coat - Colour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
- Ticking	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
- Texture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
- Length	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Total 100

USUAL (63L; 63S)

Overall impression: a rich golden brown made up of an apricot base coat ticked with black.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Black

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Rich apricot - colour should be as rich as possible.

Nose leather: Tile red.

Paw pads: Black or brown.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Cold, pale tone to the coat
2. Grey roots extending over a large area of the body. (Seasonal darkening at the roots during change of coat should not be penalised) (*this amendment Council October 2009*)
3. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

SORREL (63La; 63Sa)

Overall impression: a rich copper colour made up of an apricot base coat ticked with cinnamon.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Cinnamon.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Rich apricot.

Nose leather and paw pads : Pink.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast between the undercoat and ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

CHOCOLATE (63Lb; 63Sb)

Overall impression: a rich, warm chestnut brown made up of an apricot base coat ticked with dark chocolate.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Dark chocolate.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Rich apricot.

Nose leather: Pinkish chocolate

Paw pads : Chocolate or rosy, pinkish chocolate

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

BLUE (63Lc; 63Sc)

Overall impression: a soft blue consisting of a warm oatmeal or mushroom base coat ticked with any shade of blue.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Blue.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Warm mushroom.

Nose leather and paw pads : Mauvish blue.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. White undercoat anywhere on the body: this is particularly obvious on the back.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

LILAC (63Ld; 63Sd)

Overall impression: a warm dove grey made up of an oatmeal or mushroom undercoat ticked with lilac.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Lilac.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Mushroom.

Nose leather and paw pads : Mauvish pink.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

FAWN (63Le; 63Se)

Overall impression: a warm powdery fawn made up of a pale oatmeal or mushroom undercoat ticked with fawn.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Fawn.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Pale mushroom.

Nose leather: Pink

paw pads : Mauvish pink.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

RED (63Lf; 63Sf)

Overall impression: A warm, glowing red made up of pale red clearly ticked with a deeper tone of red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Bright red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A paler shade of red.

Nose leather and paw pads : Bright pink.

Note: Freckles may occur on nose, lips, eyelids, ears and paw pads. Slight freckling should not be penalised.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

CREAM (63Lg; 63Sg)

Overall impression: A soft, warm, powdery effect made up of a pale cream clearly ticked with a rich cream.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A paler shade of cream.

Nose leather: Creamy pink

Paw pads : Flesh pink.

Note: Freckles may occur on nose, lips, eyelids, ears and paw pads. Slight freckling should not be penalised.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.
2. All other withholding faults as in the Somali General Type Standard.

TORTIE SOMALI

Colour distribution is random and immaterial though a solid foot is not permissible. Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels to be a mingling of the standard ticking colour and that determined by the sex-linked gene. Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches to be a mingling of the standard base coat colour and that determined by the sex-linked gene. Presence or absence of a blaze is immaterial.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Solid foot
2. Absence of contrast sufficient to obscure ticking.

USUAL TORTIE (63Lt; 63St)

Overall impression: A mixture of rich, golden brown ticked with black and reddish apricot ticked with red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of black and bright red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of apricot and red.

Nose leather: Red and/or pink

Paw pads : Black and/or pink.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Grey roots extending over a large area of the body. (Seasonal darkening at the roots during change of coat should not be penalised)

SORREL TORTIE (63Lat; 63Sat)

Overall impression: A mixture of lustrous copper ticked with cinnamon and reddish apricot ticked with red.

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of cinnamon and bright red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of apricot and red.

Nose leather and paw pads: Pink and/or red

CHOCOLATE TORTIE (63Lbt; 63Sbt)

Overall impression: A mixture of rich, warm chestnut brown ticked with dark chocolate and reddish apricot ticked with red.

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of dark chocolate and bright red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of apricot and red.

Nose leather and paw pads: Chocolate and/or red or rosy, pinkish chocolate and/or red.

BLUE TORTIE (63Lct; 63Sct)

Overall impression: A mixture of soft, warm blue ticked with a deeper blue-grey and pale cream ticked with a rich cream.

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of blue and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of warm mushroom and pale cream.

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish blue and/or pink

LILAC TORTIE (63Ldt; 63Sdt)

Overall impression: A mixture of warm, dove grey ticked with a deeper dove grey and pale cream ticked with a rich cream.

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of lilac and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of mushroom and pale cream.

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish pink and/or pink

FAWN TORTIE (63Let; 63Set)

Overall impression: A mixture of warm, powdery fawn ticked with a deeper fawn and pale cream ticked with a rich cream.

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of warm fawn and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: A mingling of pale mushroom and pale cream.

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish pink and/or pink

SILVER SOMALI

The base hair of all this group should be silvery white giving an overall lustrous, silvery sheen. Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels to be the same colour as in the appropriate non-silver variety. Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches to be silvery white.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard):

1. Tarnishing over a substantial portion of the designated silver areas. (Minor patches of tarnishing are not to be considered a fault if the overall impression is of silver.)

USUAL SILVER (63Ls; 63Ss)

Overall impression: A clear silver ticked with black

Tickling, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Black

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather: Brick red

Paw pads : Black or brown.

SORREL SILVER (63Las; 63Sas)

Overall impression: A soft, silvery peach ticked with cinnamon.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Cinnamon.
Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white
Nose leather and paw pads: Pink

CHOCOLATE SILVER (63Lbs; 63Sbs)

Overall impression: A cool, silvery brown ticked with dark chocolate.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Dark chocolate

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Chocolate or rosy, pinkish chocolate

BLUE SILVER (63Lcs; 63Scs)

Overall impression: A glacial, silvery blue ticked with darker blue.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Blue.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Note: The base coat MUST be silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish blue.

LILAC SILVER (63Lds; 63Sds)

Overall impression: A frosty, silvery dove grey ticked with lilac.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Lilac

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish pink.

FAWN SILVER (63Les; 63Ses)

Overall impression: A cool, silvery fawn ticked with a darker fawn.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Fawn

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather: Pink

Paw pads: Mauvish pink

RED SILVER (63Lfs; 63Sfs)

Overall impression: A clear, silvery red ticked with red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Red

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Bright pink

Note: Freckles may occur on nose, lips, eyelids, ears and paw pads. Slight freckling should not be penalised.

CREAM SILVER (63Lgs; 63Sgs)

Overall impression: A powdery, silvery cream ticked with rich cream.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: Rich cream

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather : Creamy pink

Paw pads: Flesh pink

Note: Freckles may occur on nose, lips, eyelids, ears and paw pads. Slight freckling should not be penalised.

TORTIE SILVER SOMALIS

As for the Silver Somalis except that the silvery white base hair should have two colours of ticking: the standard colour and that expressing the sex-linked gene. The distribution of these two colours is immaterial but a solid foot is not permissible.

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for (additional to General Type Standard): as for Silver Somalis above.

USUAL TORTIE SILVER (63Lts; 63Sts)

Overall impression: A mixture of clear silver ticked with black and silvery red ticked with red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of black and red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather: Red and/or pink.

Paw pads : Black and/or pink.

SORREL TORTIE SILVER (63Lats; 63Sats)

Overall impression: A mixture of cool, silvery peach ticked with cinnamon and silvery red ticked with red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of cinnamon and red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Red and/or pink.

CHOCOLATE TORTIE SILVER (63Lbts; 63Sbts)

Overall impression: A mixture of cool, silvery brown ticked with dark chocolate and silvery red ticked with red.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of dark chocolate and red.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Pinkish chocolate and/or pink.

BLUE TORTIE SILVER (63Lcts; 63Scts)

Overall impression: A mixture of glacial, silvery blue ticked with blue and powdery, silvery cream ticked with rich cream.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: A mingling of blue and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: Silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: Mauvish blue and/or pink.

LILAC TORTIE SILVER (63Ldts; 63Sdts)

Overall impression: A mixture of frosty, silvery dove grey ticked with lilac and powdery, silvery cream ticked with rich cream.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: a mingling of lilac and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: mauvish pink and/or pink.

FAWN TORTIE SILVER (63Lets; 63Sets)

Overall impression: A mixture of cool, silvery fawn ticked with a darker fawn and powdery, silvery cream ticked with rich cream.

Ticking, ear tips and tufts, facial markings, top and tip of tail, toe tufts and heels: a mingling of warm fawn and rich cream.

Chest, belly, under tail, inside of legs and breeches: silvery white

Nose leather and paw pads: mauvish pink and/or pink.

REGISTRATION POLICY FOR SOMALI CATS (63L; 63S)

The term "Somali Type" shall be restricted to ticked cats which conform to the registration policy below and which are of a colour given full, provisional or preliminary recognition by the GCCF before 1st January 1995. Offspring of cats with the white spotting gene or Siamese restriction gene shall not be registered as Somalis on any register.

FULL REGISTER

On this register shall be Somalis with full or provisional recognition whose pedigrees contain 5 generations of full or provisional status Somalis only.

SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTER

On this register shall be Somalis with full or provisional recognition whose pedigrees have, within 5 generations, Somalis in preliminary status colours or Abyssinians of any colour.

EXPERIMENTAL REGISTER

On this register shall be Somalis at preliminary status from matings between Somalis or Abyssinians of any colour.

REFERENCE REGISTER

1. Shorthair offspring from SH Somali (63S) x SH Somali (63S) or SH Somali (63S) x Abyssinian (23) matings.
2. All colours of Somali not yet granted preliminary recognition.
3. Cats of Somali appearance which have within 5 generations on their pedigree, any breed other than Somali, Abyssinian or unregistered cats within 5 generations (but see above for restrictions to registration).

PYRUVATE KINASE (PK) DEFICIENCY TESTING SCHEME

A. ACTIVE REGISTER

All Somalis registered with the GCCF from 24th October 2007 may be registered on the Active Register, at the breeder's request, only if:

1. They themselves have been genetically tested as normal (clear) for PK deficiency. A Veterinary Certificate of the test results is required*.
2. Both parents have been tested normal (clear) as in A. 1
3. They are from parents deemed normal (clear) because of the results from the testing (as in A.1) of cats on every pedigree line in previous generations. Pedigree line in this case refers to both parents or 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents and so on, or any combination of the same which is inclusive of both the sire's and dam's ancestors.

B. GENETIC REGISTER

1. Somalis, which have been genetically tested as carriers of PK deficiency, shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or on the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.
2. Somalis, which are not eligible for registration on the Active Register, shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.
3. Offspring of cats registered on the Genetic Register may only be registered on the Active Register if they have themselves been genetically tested as normal (clear) for PK Deficiency.
4. All other offspring of cats registered on the Genetic Register shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or on the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.

* Cats must be micro chipped for identification purposes and swab or blood tested by a Vet for the Veterinary Certificate for that cat to be valid for the Active Register. The Certificate may be downloaded from the Somali BAC website www.somalibac.do.uk or is obtainable from the Somali BAC Secretary.

The Somali BAC urges breeders to ensure all paperwork for the breed uses upper case letters for the "L" indicating the semi-longhaired Somalis (63L) and the "S" indicating shorthaired Somalis (63S). The letters indicating colour should be in lower case as at present (63La = a semi-longhaired sorrel Somali; 63Ss = a usual silver shorthaired Somali). A list of breed numbers for the different hair lengths is available on the Somali Cat Club Website www.somalibac.co.uk.

The Somali BAC recommends that shorthaired Somalis (63S) are mated to semi-longhaired Somalis (63L) in order to maintain the soft, fine texture of the coat and the gentle, generous head type that are such important features of the breed. It is for this reason that the shorthaired offspring of 63S x 63S or 63S x 23 matings are placed on the Reference Register and will not be eligible to be shown.