

SLOUGHI BREED STANDARD

UK Kennel Club

March 2014

The Sloughi is one of the sighthound breeds of North Africa originating in the band of countries which border the Mediterranean: Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Libya. The desert type were lighter in frame than those used on mountainous terrain. The Sloughi was probably brought to Europe after the French occupation of Algeria. The Sloughi is a lean sighthound, sharing some similarities with the Saluki. His evident pinbones and sweeping underline are sighthound features. The Sloughi does not naturally carry any subcutaneous fat as this is a cooling mechanism for desert conditions and this results in a very slim body.

General Appearance

Elegant, racy yet strong, without coarseness. A dignified hound with fine skin marked by its muscular leanness. Capable of sustained effort over long distances.

Characteristics

Quiet, of dignified bearing. Noble, haughty and extremely expressive with the instincts of a hunting hound.

Temperament

Loyal to owner, affectionate with family, aloof with strangers.

Head and Skull

Long, refined, an elongated wedge showing strength but not excessively angular. Skull flat, fairly broad. Clearly rounded at back of skull and curving smoothly into sides. Slightly marked frontal bone and pronounced occiput. Muzzle refined without exaggeration, about equal in length to skull. Slight stop. Nose and lips black.

Eyes

Large, dark, oval, set slightly obliquely. Expression gentle, rather sad and wistful. In light-coated hounds, lighter eyes permissible.

Ears

Not too large, triangular in shape but with rounded tips; flat. Usually folding down and carried close to head, set level with, or slightly above eye but may be carried away from the skull or sometimes even thrown backwards.

Mouth

Jaws strong with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Neck

Strong yet very elegant in proportion to body. Moderately long with good arch. Skin slightly loose, making fine pleats under throat.

Forequarters

Shoulder blades long and set obliquely onto body. Flat bone and well muscled. Upper arm of moderate length. Pasterns supple and strong.

Body

Chest not broad. Prominent sternum. Slightly sprung ribs giving fairly flat appearance, reaching almost to point of elbow. Reasonably well ribbed back with definite tuck up. Loin short, broad and muscular, and slightly arched. Topline almost level. Relatively short croup, obliquely set. Pin bones prominent.

Hindquarters

Strongly muscled. Fairly flat appearance with moderate angulation, Second thigh long and well-developed. Hocks well let down.

Feet

Lean, elongated hare foot, fairly well arched.

Tail

Fine and well set on without fringes or long hair. Strong curve at end which preferably reaches to point of hock. Set in line with croup as a continuation of topline. When moving never carried higher than level of back.

Gait/Movement

Free, smooth, effortless gait, head carriage not too high. Without exaggerated extension.

Coat

Fine and short. Undercoat may grow during winter.

Colour

Colour ranges from light sand to red sand (fawn), with or without black mask, black mantle, black brindling or black overlay. Excessive white undesirable.

Size

Height at withers: dogs 66-72 cms (26-28¼ ins), bitches 61-68 cms (24-26¾ ins).

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points 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.

Note

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.