



## XOLOITZCUINTLE CLUB USA

# XOLO WORLD REVIEW

Quarter 1, 2009

### President's Report

We have had a good year. Our National Specialty was held in Oregon City, Oregon. We had a good entry, a wonderful Nekked Dog party, and 7 shows that weekend. It was a great opportunity to visit and see lots of wonderful Xolos.

Here are some of the things that are being accomplished!

**New Breed Info Trifold:** The Board has approved the new breed info Trifold, developed by Jewel Waldrip. Jewel has done a wonderful job with this. Members can print off copies. The trifold is in the XCUSA list files section and can be downloaded and printed. Print off a supply. When you take your Xolo with you, have some trifolds with you. It is a great opportunity to educate.

**Shows:** It has been a good year for XCUSA. Our shows this year were a big success and we are working toward the 2009 shows that will be held in Auburn, Washington at Argus Ranch October 10 & 11, 2009. In addition to conformation, this year we will have 3 obedience and 3 Rally trials, so a dog that earns 3 qualifying scores in either venue could receive a title. Glenda Phillips is our trial chair for these performance events.

**Breeders' Listing:** People frequently ask where they can get a good Xolo so the Board designed and approved a Breeders Listing for XCUSA club members. We will now have a list of XCUSA club members who are breeders posted on both our web site and in our newsletter. People seeking Xolo breeders will have some resources when looking for a contact. Details are on the Members Only section of the website and in the files section of the XCUSA e-mail list. (The Xoloitzcuintle Club USA Inc. does not endorse or make any guarantee of any breeder by offering this Breeders' Listing.)

**AKC Status:** Xolos went into the Miscellaneous Group January 1, 2009. People are beginning to show their Xolos and Xolos are being noticed by judges and the public. This makes it even more important to continue breed education. Education chair, Jo Acton has done a seminar for the Rocky Mountain Cluster in Colorado. Lisa Windflower, Don Webb and Barbara Griffin worked in the FSS booth at the Rose City Cluster in Portland, Oregon. They also did a presentation for Chintimini Kennel Club in Corvallis Oregon. Other club members have printed the trifold and distributed it at the various shows they have attended and participated in.

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## President's Report

**Health Registry:** We are working to start a Health Registry for Xolos. It is important that we track any hereditary conditions and document our purebred Xolos both pet and show. That testing consists of eyes (CERF: Canine Eye Registration Foundation; Hips, elbows, shoulders, patellas: OFA (Orthopedic Foundation for Animals); AKC DNA or other DNA registries. Testing our Xolos lets us know if there are some health issues in the breed and helps to keep the breed sound and healthy.

I am looking forward to continuing to serve XCUSA over the next 2 years.

Barbara Griffin  
XCUSA President  
March, 2009



## XCUSA Drawing

The winner of the first quarterly prize drawing, which was for a hand braided black and white kangaroo leather lead, is Lisa Moore from Seattle. The drawing included the names of all current paid members. Lisa won't be eligible for the rest of the year's drawings, as only one win is allowed per member annually, but she won this one. Congratulations, Lisa!

### 2nd Quarter Drawing



This is a very old, massive, greenish/blue stone carving of a stylized xolo gargoyle. It will be made into a world-class piece of jewelry and will be the prize for the second quarter drawing among all paid XCUSA members. Guaranteed to protect the wearer from evil and guaranteed one of a kind!

## Recipes

### Microwave Cookie Jar Mix

I made up some of these and put them in pawprinted plastic jars (found in the Jo-Ann's 2 for \$5 bins) to use as raffle prizes or trophies. Also great gifts....I printed off the ingredients and cooking directions on a card and taped it to the jar.

### Microwave Dog Cookie Jar Mix (Jane Lake)

- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup plain flour
- 1/4 cup cornmeal
- 1/2 cup quick cooking oats
- 2/3 cup skim milk powder
- 1/2 cup quick cooking oats
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1-1/2 tsp beef boullion granules

Layer the ingredients, in the order given, in a 1 quart jar, packing each layer firmly.

### To Use:

Empty jar contents into a bowl. Cut in 1/2 cup of shortening, 1 slightly beaten egg and 3/4 cup of hot water. Knead for five minutes. Roll 1/2" thick on a floured board. Cut into bone shapes or triangles etc.

Microwave at 60% power for about 10-15 minutes, rotating plate. Let cool and store in the refrigerator.

## The "M" - Dog Parks Addendum

The 'M' is the most popular hiking trail, up and back. College students, hikers, runners, and avid exercisers. It has no less than 20 cars at the trail head at any given time. The trail is narrow and steep. While this heavily trafficked trail is only 1 mile up and 1 mile down it does connect with trails to the back country that are endless. The general M.O. on this trail is to never carry a leash or clean up after your dog, dog fights/skirmishes are common and accepted as 'normal' by most users, weekly there are 'missing dog' signs at the trail head from dogs that ran off while on their hike. Some dogs are well trained and stay with their owner, most do not. Some dogs are very friendly; some are stressed by joggers, hikers and on coming dogs. As the snow thaws the stench from feces and urine on this trail is intense and nothing short of a health hazard. It is not uncommon to meet a dog and never see their owner. This trail is literally being 'loved to death' with no active management.

## 2009 National & PNW Regional Specialties

Date: Oct 9-11, 2009

Location: Argus Ranch, Auburn, WA

### Committee

#### **Christine Feldman-Bartnick**

Event Coordinator, christo@oregon.com

#### **Mark Bartnick**

Show Chair/Sec - xcusat@oregon.com

#### **Barbara Griffin**

Asst Show Chair - gwinndell@aol.com

#### **Glenda Phillips**

Obedience/Rally Chair - pugsnort@elltel.net

National Specialty Information Packet will be available in early Spring '09.

#### **Local Airport:** Sea-Tac International Airport

**Lodging:** Limited on-site lodging reservations must be made thru Christine Feldman-Bartnick,

[christo@oregon.com](mailto:christo@oregon.com).

Alternate lodging available in nearby Auburn, WA.

More details will be available in the Info Packet out in Spring '09.

The XCUSA will host the National Specialty at Argus Ranch "Facility For Dogs" in Auburn, WA.

2 Conformation Specialties (written critique format)

3 Rally Trials

3 Obedience Trials

# 2009 XOLOITZCUNTLE CLUB USA

## NATIONAL & REGIONAL SPECIALTY OCT 9-11, 2009

Argus Ranch  
Auburn, WA

**2 SPECIALTIES**  
**3 RALLY TRAILS**  
**3 OBEDIENCE TRIALS**



The following judges have been selected.

### National Specialty Judge

#### **Mr. Gary Dunlop, Woodburn, OR**

Gary Dunlop is an AKC approved judge he has attended 2 XCUSA National Specialties as well as the XCUSA Breed Ed Seminar.

### Regional Specialty Judge

#### **Mr. Dennis Morgan, Arlington, WA**

Dennis Morgan is an approved AKC/UKC judge with experience judging Xolos at UKC and Rare Breed events.

### Obedience/Rally Judge

#### **Ms. Terri Kaluza, Enumclaw, WA**

Terri Kaluza is an approved UKC obedience judge and professional obedience/rally instructor at Argus Ranch Facility for Dogs. Ms Kaluza is an active exhibitor in companion events.

### Obedience/Rally Judge

#### **Ms. Lisa Nonog, Enumclaw, WA**

Lisa Nonog is an active obedience/rally/agility exhibitor with experience judging events several times a year.

### Tentative Schedule.....

#### **Oct 9, 2009**

6pm - Welcome Party

#### **Oct 10, 2009**

8am - Obedience #1 /Rally #1 /Rally #2

1pm - National Specialty

7pm - Dinner/Auction

#### **Oct 11, 2009**

8am - Rally #3 /Obedience #2 /Obedience #3

12pm - Parade of Companion & Rescue

1pm - PNW Regional Specialty

Mark your calendar and put in for vacation time!! This will be a National to remember.

Contact Christine Feldman-Bartnick, XCUSA Events Coordinator for more details.

## Dog Parks

I recently sent out two informal surveys: the first to trainers and Dog sport competitors across the U.S., the second to family pet owners that are actively training their dogs in the Gallatin Valley <Bozeman, MT area>.

Trainers and dog sport competitors were asked, "Do you use dog parks, why or why not?" 94% said no, the three main reasons were; they know good dog behavior and see too many disengaged owners allowing their dog to be inappropriate with other dogs, untrained people with untrained dogs, not worth the stress or the risk. The 6% that do use dog parks had specific criteria; certain dog parks at certain times of the day, only with known dogs and responsible owners, only in off leash 'open space' dog areas, to work their dog with disc/ball focus not to play with other dogs.

The survey to family pet owners asked a variety of questions regarding how they manage/socialize their dogs while out and about. The answers paint an accurate picture with what is happening in and about town. 99% of people surveyed allow their dogs off leash on trails and public parks, not just dog parks, although dog parks were used regularly by 55%. ON LEASH only signs were disregarded by 90% of people using the trails through town. People that have been actively training and have 100% voice control while hiking do not allow their dogs to meet & greet everyone or every dog and seem to be very respectful of space. Folks that have variable voice control will attempt to call their dog to them if they see a person approaching, but allow

their dog to run up to a person walking with a dog. If someone has had a bad experience with another dog 70% of the time it was on Pete's Hill, the other 30% was split between the Christmas Stroll and all other trails in and around town. While out walking their own dog 50% of the people have had a verbal argument at least once with another person, the words 'leash' or 'poop' were the two most common words in the argument, and men apparently you seem to be the culprits when it comes to not cleaning up after your dog/s. "Don't worry my dog is friendly" is the most common phrase used and/or heard on trails, 50% of the time it is not received well by other people and/or people with their dog, followed up with "I don't care, call your dog!". Bozeman Creek, Sundance and Sourdough trails were mentioned by over 35% where you usually see dogs long before an owner ever appears and there seems to be no attempt by owners to call their dogs to them. 50-60% of people love off leash options but would also like to see leash areas only. 60% of those surveyed classified dogs as either 'friendly' dogs that could go to dog parks, or 'aggressive' dogs that couldn't. As for the 'M', that is an article in and of itself... (please see the "M", page 2).

As a pet owner, trainer and competitor I observe these interactions daily, some with delight some with apprehension. We have some very responsible dog owners that have put a great deal of time into training, socializing, and exercising. But we seem to have a fairly large number of dog owners that treat the City as a giant dog park with

little to no regard for other people/dogs space, and become arrogantly defiant if you ask them to call their dog. Off leash areas, not necessarily dog parks, are important for social, emotional, physical well being, whether it is time with the owner or meet & greets with other dogs, but these areas should also be used respectfully not defiantly. What I find sadly naïve is that dogs seem to be regarded as friendly 'dog park dogs' or aggressive dogs, dogs are so much more than this and should not be defined by their ability to go to a dog park. The majority of the dogs in town are not dog park dogs and they are far from 'bad' dogs. Many people and their dogs find that type of experience stressful or unpleasant and seek other ways to exercise and socialize. I feel very strongly that leash laws should be strictly enforced in the majority of city parks. I think some of the trails in town should have modified signs that read "Under 100% voice control or on leash, strictly enforced" This way owners that have put a great deal of time into training are rewarded with off leash privileges, it gives other folks a chance to step up, and it keeps trails from turning into dog parks. I don't think it is necessarily 'cool' to have a dog off leash in a public area, I think it is a privilege that should be earned.

Nancy Tanner, CPDT is a certified pet dog trainer in Bozeman Montana and the owner of Paws & People, LLC where the focus is on-training, education and behavior. For more information visit [www.pawsandpeople.com](http://www.pawsandpeople.com)

## Member News

### BRAGS

Coatl, son of Acero and Besito's Chuchi, took best of breed (over 1 other xolo) both days at the CDO AKC show March 21 and 22nd. He also took best puppy in group at the IABCA series in early March in Tucson for 3 of the 4 shows.

*Kacie Johnson  
Tucson, Arizona*

At the February Rocky Mountain Cluster shows in Denver, Machu qualified for his Rally Excellent title.



Our next goal is a Rally Advanced Excellent title which will require a qualifying score in the Advanced and Excellent class on the same day at ten different trials. That will be quite the challenge for me to not mess things up for Machu as I have done so many times before. A friend watching us compete said that Machu was very attentive and seemed to be eager for what ever came next. Clearly my little man is handlercapped, but we'll go for it anyway.

*Teresa Vila*

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIORS

Mex. Ch. ARBA Ch. Yatsil (Hoover) Mex., beloved Velcro girl of Linda and Art Abercrombie, turned 14 on March 31. Yatsil was bred by Patty Hoover and retired onto Linda and Art's ranch in California. Photos here are from her showing days and a current one.



CH. Quantara Fullmoon Dancer, CGC, trick dog extraordinaire, bestest girl of Susan Stevens, turned 10 on March 29. Luna was bred by Kim Lovewell and sent to Georgia at the tender age of 14 weeks. Photo from October 2008. Not a xolo, and not nekkid, but I claim editor priviliges!



### OVER THE BRIDGE

Patty's beautiful Bollilo has gone to play among the stars. He was a top winner in the show ring and the sire of many other top winning xolos. He was a great xolo and will be missed.

"BOLLILO" --Mex. Ch., ARBA Ch., Res.Wld.Ch. 1998 Finland, Latin American Ch. YOPICO-BALAM (Santiago), Mex. BIS Third at the Latin American Show at the Mexico World Show 1999, Mexico City, a first for a Xolo from the US.



1999 Mexico World Show, Latin American Show "Bolillo" Mex.Ch. Yopico-Balam (Santiago), Mex. Winning Group One Judge Dorothy Nickles, handled by Alejandra Flores.

## *Xoloitcuintle Standard Comparison, XCUSA & AKC*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

#### HAIRLESS VARIETY

A very attractive dog; its most important characteristic is the complete or almost complete lack of hair, with a smooth and soft skin. It has a well-proportioned body, chest is ample, ribs are well sprung, limbs and tail are long.

#### COATED VARIETY

A very attractive, completely coated dog with the same harmonious proportions as the hairless variety. The coat can be of any color and texture. Its body is well-proportioned, chest is ample, ribs well sprung, limbs and tail are long.

### JUDGING THE XOLOITZCUINTLE

The Miniature and Intermediate varieties are to be examined on the table and Standard variety examined on the ground. The Hairless Xolo is sensitive to touch and therefore may flinch or roach on examination. Final judgment of topline and outline should be made with the dog standing naturally on the ground rather than posed. The Xolo is a primitive breed by nature and can be aloof and wary of strangers. When judging, it is better to allow the handler to show the expression. The tail is not to be held above the topline during presentation.

### SIZE, PROPORTIONS AND SUBSTANCE

#### Size:

- Miniature variety: over 10" - 14" or under  
The Miniature variety Xolo is 14 inches or under at the highest point of the shoulders, with a minimum height in excess of 10 inches.
- Intermediate variety: over 14" - 18" or under  
The Intermediate variety Xolo is 18 inches or under at the highest point of the shoulders, with a minimum height in excess of 14 inches.
- Standard variety: over 18" - 24" or under  
The Standard variety Xolo is 24 inches or under at the highest point of the shoulders, with a minimum height in excess of 18 inches.

Disqualification: Height outside of maximum or minimum limits set forth in the standard for its size variety.

**Proportions:** The body has harmonious proportions, slightly longer than the height at the withers. Approxi-

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Xolo is an ancient, natural breed, molded by evolution rather than selective breeding. A Xolo is moderate in all aspects of type and conformation, never extreme or overdone. Today the breed serves as a guard and companion. The Xolo possesses a clean, graceful outline, equally combining elegance and strength. There are two varieties, hairless and coated, identical except for coat and dentition. In the hairless variety, the principal characteristic is the total or almost total absence of hair. The coated variety is covered by a short, flat coat. In conformation, all three sizes are lean, sturdy, well muscled with a spacious ribcage, and moderate bone. The Xolo outline is rectangular, and the distance from the elbow to ground is equal to, or slightly greater than the distance from the withers to the elbow. Typical Xolo temperament is calm, tranquil, aloof and attentive.



### SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

Height is measured at the highest point of the withers. Toy: Height at withers at least ten, and up to and including 14 inches.

Miniature: Height at withers over 14 inches, and up to and including 18 inches.

Standard: Height at withers over 18 inches, and up to and including 23 inches.

Dogs less than 10 inches, or over 24 inches are disqualified.

The body is slightly longer than height, in a 9/10 ratio measured from the point of the shoulder blade to the end of the rump. Medium, oval shaped bone is desirable. All three sizes exhibit moderately balanced proportions, and appear strong, sturdy, and well covered with smooth, flat muscle, but never coarse, heavy or over-muscled.

mately 10:9. The length of the body is measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of rump and from the highest point of the withers to the ground. Females may be slightly longer than the males. Serious Fault: Long bodies with short limbs or short body with long limbs.

**Substance:** Sturdy and athletic body.

## HEAD

According to the “wolf” type, the Xoloitzcuintle skull is broad, strong and wedge shaped with large erect ears.

### Cranial Region

**Skull:** From above, the head is wedge shaped. It is wide, strong and elegant; tapering towards the muzzle. The occiput should not be prominent. The depth, width and length and of skull should be approximately equal. The length of the skull and the length of muzzle should be approximately equal and almost parallel.

**Stop:** Slight but well defined.

**Muzzle:** Seen from the side, straight; upper and lower jaws strongly developed.

**Planes:** Skull and muzzle planes almost parallel.

**Cheeks:** Only slightly developed.

### Facial Region

**Nose:** The nose should be dark in dark colored dogs, brown or rose in lighter colored dogs. Fault: Spotted nose.

**Muzzle:** Seen from the side, straight; upper and lower jaws strongly developed.

**Lips:** Tight and close fitting.

**Tongue:** The tongue is generally pink but may have black markings, spots or stripes, which is a common characteristic of the breed.

**Cheeks:** Only slightly developed.

### Teeth:

**Hairless variety:** Strong jaws. The incisors should close perfectly in a scissor bite with the superior incisors overlapping; the interior surface of the superior incisors touching the external surface of the lower incisors, squaring the jaw. A level bite, edge to edge, is also permitted. The absence of a few incisors, canines, molars, pre-molars or rotated teeth should not be penalized, as many dogs do not have deep roots. Genetically, the absence of hair is closely linked to the absence of teeth.

**Coated variety:** Full dentition with scissor or level bite is required.

**Eyes:** Medium sized and almond shaped. Color of eyes

## HEAD

**Expression:** Thoughtful and intelligent, vivacious, conveying the noble and faithful character of the breed, will show distinctive brow wrinkles when at attention. Eyes are almond shaped, medium size, neither sunken nor protruding. The color varies from yellow to black, the darker being preferred, but lighter color is acceptable. Both eyes must be of the same color. The eye rims may be less pigmented on light colored dogs. Light or spotted eye rims are tolerated but not preferred. Ears Large, elegant and expressive, a thin delicate texture, tapering to a rounded tip. Ears are set high and carried strongly erect when alert. Ears not standing erect by one year of age are a fault. The Xolo should never exhibit ear fringe. Cropping is prohibited. Skull is wedge shaped, when seen from above, wide and strong, gradually tapering to the muzzle. Excessively wide or narrow heads are a fault. Skull and muzzle planes are parallel. Stop is not pronounced. Muzzle: is longer than skull, straight when viewed in profile. The lower jaw is strong and well developed, free from throatiness. Nose is dark on dark colored dogs, lighter on light colored dogs. Lips are thin and tight. Bite Scissors bite. In the hairless variety, the absence of premolars is acceptable. Complete set of incisors preferred but lack thereof is not to be penalized. In the coated variety, complete dentition is required.



differs according to skin color and ranges from black, coffee-brown, red-brown and amber to yellow. Both eyes must be the same color. Color of eye rims ranges from black to brown to gray. Disqualifications: Blue eyes or flecks of blue in the eyes.

#### **Ears:**

**Hairless variety:** The ears are long, large, expressive, very elegant and of fine texture; they are reminiscent of “bat” ears. They should be held erect when alert. In the alert position their axis should be 50 – 80 degrees from horizontal. Due to the fine texture of the ears, it is not uncommon for an ear to have notches.

**Coated Variety:** The ears are long, large and elegant. They may be held erect or they may be down. While erect is desirable, any position is acceptable. Both ears should be in the same position, when alert.

#### **NECK, TOPLINE AND BODY**

**Neck:** Slightly arched. Proportionally long with head held high. Slim, flexible, well muscled and very elegant.

**Topline:** Straight and level blending into the slightly rounding croup. Dogs with arched or sunken backs are not desirable.

**Body:** Sturdy and athletically built.

**Underline:** Elegantly marked, starting at the lower chest and finishing at the abdomen.

**Tuck-up:** The abdomen is muscled and moderately tucked up.

**Loin:** Long with muscles slightly arched over loin.

**Croup:** Slightly rounding from the loin to the root of the tail. Fault: Flat croup.

**Tail:** The tail is long, thin and tapers from base to tip. It may have some tufts of hair. In movement it is happily held in an upward and outward curve, never drooping over the back. When at rest, it should hang with a slight curve at the end. The tail should nearly reach the hock. Sometimes it may be held between the legs, which may be a sign of shyness or cold temperatures. Serious Fault: Short tail. Disqualification: A docked tail.

#### **Forequarters**

**Chest:** Seen in profile, the chest is deep and long, dropping down to the elbows. The ribs are slightly sprung but never flat. Seen from the front, the upper chest is of a good breadth but not broad. The tip of the sternum should not protrude.

**Legs:** Seen from the front, legs are straight and perpendicular, proportionate to the body and of a good length.

**Shoulders:** Flat and muscular. The shoulders are flat



#### **NECK, TOPLINE, BODY**

Neck is long, elegant, slightly arched, blending smoothly into the shoulders. In dogs less than one year of age, wrinkled skin may be present. In adults, the skin on the neck is smooth and dry, without wrinkles. Topline is level with slight arch over loin. Body is well developed. The brisket should reach to point of elbow. The ribcage is deep and oval, of good length, with sufficient ribspring to produce a rounded shape, but never barrel shaped. The loin is muscular, with a smooth underline showing a slight tuck up. Back is level and firm. Croup is well muscled, slightly rounded, and broad. It should not be flat or steeply angled. Tail is set low, continuing smoothly off the angle of the croup, long and fine, reaching to the hock. When the dog is moving, the tail is carried in a graceful curve, but not over the back. It is held down in a relaxed position when the dog is at rest. A short or curled tail is a serious fault.

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Shoulders are covered with smooth muscle, long and sloping. Shoulder blades are flat and well laid back. Upper Arm (humerus) is equal or slightly longer than scapula, angled to place the forelegs well under the body. Elbows are firm and tight, allowing for reach but not so loose to as to allow for elbowing out, nor so tight as to create toeing in or out. Legs are long, straight, and parallel, when viewed from all sides, set well under

and muscled with adequate angles of scapula-humerus to allow a long, free and elegant stride.

**Elbows:** Strong, fitting close to the chest wall, never turning outwards.

**Feet** - The feet are medium length (hare's foot) with toes arched and close together. Feet may have short bristly hair. Any nail coloration is acceptable. Nails are short and usually black in black colored dogs. In lighter colored and bronze colored dogs, nails are lighter colored, even white. The foot pads are strong and resistant to any terrain. Inter-digital membranes are well developed. Dew claws may be removed.

### **Hindquarters**

**Angulation:** Well developed first and second thigh with moderately angulated stifles and hocks in balance with the moderately laid back shoulders. The angle of pelvis to upper thigh joint, the stifle and hock, is adequately open to permit free strong movement of the hindquarters. Noticeably and functionally wider in the hindquarters than the forequarters.

**Legs:** Seen from behind, the rear legs are perfectly straight and parallel.

**Hocks:** Clean and well let down.

**Feet:** Same as front

### **SKIN AND COAT**

**Hairless variety:** The skin on the neck is firm, elastic, yet close fitting and without dewlap. Puppies show folds on the neck, which disappear with increasing age. Flabby, loose or wrinkled skin is to be faulted in adults. Due to a total absence of hair on the body, the skin of the Xolo is of great importance. It is smooth, sensitive and feels very warm to the touch. Acne is common and skin eruptions should not be penalized, especially in young dogs. Scars are not to be penalized. The main characteristic of the hairless Xolo is the total or nearly total lack of hair, although there may be some short tufts of hair on the forehead, face and back of the neck. This hair may be any color but should not reach more than an inch in length. The hair should never form a long topknot of soft texture. It is common to find hairs on the feet and at the end of the tail, however if they do not exist this should not be penalized. Stray hairs on muzzle may or may not be trimmed for neatness and should not be penalized either way.

**Coated variety:** The skin of the Coated Xolo should be the soft. The Coated Xolo has a complete single coat of short, flat, firm and closing fitting hair. Coat must be uniform in density and texture over the entire body.

the body to allow a long stride. Pasterns are flexible, strong and straight, turning neither in nor out. Feet are harefeet, webbed, with well-arched toes. Thin soft pads, splayed feet or rounded feet are a serious fault. Toenails are to be dark on dark colored dogs, light on light colored dogs. Dewclaws may be removed.

### **HINDQUARTERS**

The Xolo possesses moderate rear angulation, in balance with the forequarters. The bones of the first and second thigh are approximately equal in length, and the combined angle should place the front edge of the back paw directly under the rearmost point of the pelvis with the hock perpendicular. Legs are straight and well muscled. Stifle is moderately bent. Hocks are short, sturdy and straight, turning neither in nor out. Dewclaws may be removed. Feet are the same as the front feet.

### **COAT**

The principal characteristic of the hairless variety is the absence of hair, however a small amount of short, coarse hair is permitted on the top of the head, the feet, and the last third of the tail to the tip. The absence of hair in those areas is not to be penalized. Hair on any other areas is a serious fault. Hair may be any color. The skin is tough, protective, smooth and close fitting. Moderate head wrinkles are permitted but loose or wrinkled skin on the body is a fault. The coated variety is completely covered with a short, smooth, close fitting coat. Long, soft or wavy hair is a serious fault in either variety.

Very little hair is to be expected on the belly and inside the rear legs. Disqualification: Allowed hair longer than 1 inch.

### COLOR

**Hairless variety:** Solid, uniform dark colors are preferred. There are variants from black, dark gray, light gray, red, liver, bronze, brown, copper, dark brown and blond. White markings and tri-color are permitted.

**Coated variety:** Any color or combination of colors. Dark solid colors preferred. Disqualification: Albinism

### GAIT

With correctly balanced angles, the Xolo moves with long, elegant and flexible strides; at a fast trot a Xolo should unfold gracefully, head held above the topline. At the trot the Xolo is a doubling tracking dog, only converging slightly at greater speeds.

### TEMPERAMENT

An alarm dog, the Xolo can be aloof and suspicious toward strangers. The Xolo is a calm, quiet dog; cheerful, attentive and alert, a good watchdog, and an excellent companion. Serious Fault: Aggressiveness.

### FAULTS

The foregoing description is that of the ideal Xoloitzcuintle. Any deviation from the described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation.

### DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

- Hair on any part of the Hairless Xolo's body other than the head, ears, back of neck, feet and tail
- Allowed hair exceeding 1 inch in length
- Height outside of maximum or minimum limits set forth in the standard for its size variety
- Overshot, undershot or wry bite, any other anomaly in position of the jaws
- Tail docked to any length
- Cropped, tipped, or dropped ear on Hairless
- Blue eyes or blue flecks in the eyes
- Albinism
- Monorchid or Cryptorchid

### COLOR

A dark, uniform color is preferred, ranging from black, gray black, slate, to red, liver or bronze, although white spots and markings are permitted.

### GAIT

The movement is a free and effortless at a fast trot, with good reach and drive. Legs will converge towards a centerline of gravity as speed increases.

### TEMPERAMENT

Typical Xolo temperament is calm, tranquil, aloof and attentive.

### DISQUALIFICATIONS

Xolos under ten or over 24 inches in height, measured at the highest point of the withers. Cropped ears.

## Health Testing

XCUSA's hardworking Christine Feldman-Bartnick is in the process of creating a database of health testing information about xolos. There have been several inquiries about what testing is available for xolos and what tests are most essential. The xoloitzcuintle is a healthy breed, with few health issues identified at this time, but little formal health testing has been done in the breed so we have no way to be able to say, "The dogs I intend to breed are free of luxating patellas." It is going to be increasingly important to test our xolos, partly to identify any problems that might exist and partly so that we know that we are breeding from and purchasing the healthiest possible specimens of the breed.

FCM has implemented a program wherein a standard xolo cannot have its FCM championship confirmed until it has been x-rayed for hip dysplasia. Mexico seems to feel that this is enough of a potential problem that they want proof that a xolo is not dysplastic before it is given an FCM title. FCM has also begun to require that intermediates and miniatures be x-rayed to rule out luxating patellas. In the US, patellas are generally checked by manual palpation, with x-rays not deemed necessary unless a dog has luxating patellas serious enough to require corrective surgery.

Hip x-rays for standards and patella checks for intermediates and miniatures would be a good place to begin health testing. More information about these tests can be found at [www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org). OFA maintains an online, searchable database of

these results and negative results can be included with the owner's permission. Another method of evaluating hips by x-ray is Pennhip <http://www.pennhip.org/>

Annual CERF (Canine Eye Registry Foundation) eye exams are also something we can do on our xolos. This exam must be performed by a veterinary ophthalmologist who is certified by the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO). The dog's eyes are dilated with drops and it is examined in a darkened room. Often, CERF clinics are offered at reduced prices at AKC dog shows. A pretty comprehensive listing of health clinics is maintained here: [http://www.cavalierhealth.org/health\\_clinics.htm](http://www.cavalierhealth.org/health_clinics.htm) Information about CERF testing can be found here: <http://www.vmdb.org/cerf.html>

These clinics sometimes offer cardiac testing for dogs by a veterinary cardiologist, and that is another test that can be done on xolos.

Our xolos can also be DNA profiled if they are AKC/FSS registered. This is in no way a "breed purity" test, but a test of certain gene locations that allow a dog and its offspring to be positively identified as parents and puppies from those parents. Information about this testing can be found here: <http://www.akc.org/dna/index.cfm>

BAER testing for deafness can also be done on xolos, although deafness does not seem to be an issue in the breed at this time. BAER test sites and more information about the testing can be found here: <http://www.lsu.edu/deafness/baersite.htm>

What about testing altered xolos? If an altered pet xolo comes from a documented line, with known registered parents, testing of these individuals can provide valuable information about its parents and siblings, who are part of the breeding gene pool.

There are many other tests that can be done on dogs. Hips, patellas, and eyes seem to be an acceptable starting place for xolos. Should other conditions become known, testing for those conditions may be considered.

If someone has a hairless dog of unknown background and wants to find out what breeds are in the mix, that testing can be done through several companies. One is here: <http://www.vetdnacenter.com/canine-breed-test.html> This doesn't provide any information that is useful to the purebred, documented xolo but might be of interest to people who have rescue dogs.

Each purebred and documented xolo that is tested for any of these things adds to our knowledge of what problems may (or may not) exist in the breed. It may be that there ARE no eye problems revealed by CERF exams, or there may be several. We simply won't know until people get their xolos tested and add the test results to the health registry, with information about parentage.

Test results must be documented and from accepted sources. For more information, contact Christine at [christo@oregon.com](mailto:christo@oregon.com)

## Letter to Dogs

Dear Dogs,

When I say to move, it means go someplace else, not switch positions with each other so there are still two dogs in the way.

The dishes with the paw print are yours and contain your food. The other dishes are mine and contain my food. Please note, placing a paw print in the middle of my plate and food does not stake a claim for it becoming your food and dish, nor do I find that aesthetically pleasing in the slightest.

The stairway was not designed by Nascar and is not a racetrack. Beating me to the bottom is not the object. Tripping me doesn't help,

### Rules for non pet owners who visit and like to complain about our pets

1. The dog lives here. You don't.
2. If you don't want dog hair on your clothes, stay off the furniture.
3. I like my dog a lot better than I like most people.
4. To you, she's a dog. To me, she's an adopted daughter who is hairy, walks on all fours and doesn't speak clearly.
5. Dogs are better than kids. They eat less, don't ask for money all the time, are easier to train, usually come when called, never drive your car, don't hang out with drug-using friends, don't smoke or drink, don't worry about buying the latest fashions, don't wear your clothes, and don't need a gazillion dollars for college.

because I fall faster than you can run.

I cannot buy anything bigger than a king size bed. I am very sorry about this. Do not think I will continue to sleep on the couch to ensure your comfort. Look at videos of dogs sleeping, they can actually curl up in a ball. It is not necessary to sleep perpendicular to each other stretched out to the fullest extent possible. I also know that sticking tails straight out and having tongues hanging out the other end to maximize space used is nothing but doggy sarcasm.

My compact discs are not miniature Frisbees.

For the last time, there is not a secret exit from the bathroom. If by some miracle I beat you there and manage to get the door shut, it is not necessary to claw, whine, try to turn the knob, or get your paw under the edge and try to pull the door open. I must exit through the same door I entered. In addition, I have been using bathrooms for years, canine attendance is not mandatory.

The proper order is kiss me, then go smell the other dogs butt. I cannot stress this enough. It would be such a simple change for you.

Author Unknown

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