



NEWSLETTER - FEB 2004



Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club - Getting There is ALL the Fun!

Feb 14, First Water "B" Meet

Be there when history is made as the Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club hosts their first Pacific Ranking "B" event on Saturday, February 14, 2004 at First Water. This beautiful area in the Superstition Mountains features varied desert terrain, spectacular views and sparse hostile vegetation. Many of you have participated in our recent field checking expeditions into this area to create the great - and highly accurate - colored map that we'll be using. Your help is always appreciated.

Of course, it may be more formal in the operation, but there is still always something for beginners. Along with the beginner's clinic, there are courses from absolute beginner (white) to intermediate beginner (yellow) and on up to advanced. In all, there will be six courses which will meet all skill levels - White, Yellow, Orange, Green, Red and Blue.

Our past events have all been "C" meets, meaning that because they don't count for ranking in the competitive orienteering world, we can be more flexible in how we run them. Think of them as fun learning experiences, training for the big time. Because this meet counts towards competitive ranking, you'll find that it will be a bit more formal - there are many rules that we must follow strictly - such as the map we use, gaps between competitor's start times and the courses we offer. Come check it out. It's going to be a real event!

**DETAILS
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We're in need of a Club Secretary! Can you help?

Being a club, we rely on our member volunteers to help in all capacities, and right now, we really need a volunteer to step forward and take on the role of club secretary. The (all volunteer) board meets on the 3rd Tuesday evening of the month at the Tempe library. The secretary takes down the minutes of the meeting, makes copies of them and distributes them to all attendees before the next meeting. Distribution can be done via email (or snail mail if you don't have access to a computer). The secretary also creates an agenda for the meeting from input from the board members and others. Please volunteer for this very important club function.

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
<http://www.geocities.com/phxo>

c/o Rockledge Services / P.O. Box 51114
Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

First Water Details

TAKE NOTE: When you get to the turnoff for the First Water Trailhead, don't be fooled if there is an orienteering sign that indicates a turn. DO NOT TURN, but continue on Hwy 88. That first sign is for the JROTC cadets who will also be using this area but are starting from the First Water Parking area.

Courses:

There will be six courses which will meet all skill levels. They will be White, Yellow, Orange, Green, Red and Blue.

Directions to the Meet:

From Phoenix take US 60 Superstition Freeway to the Idaho Rd. exit and turn left (north). Drive to the intersection of Hwy 88 and turn right. At about 5.2 miles there will be the intersection with the road to the First Water Trail head. DON'T TURN THERE even though there will an orienteering sign. This sign is for the JROTC "O" meet parking area. Continue another 1.4 miles on Hwy 88 and turn right at the PHXO "O" sign and enter the large dirt parking area. If you get to the Needle Vista Lookout parking area you have gone 0.6 mile too far. There is no Forest Service parking fee for this area.

Cost: (member/non-member)
Individual\$6 / \$8
Team.....\$8 / \$10

Schedule:

Registration.....9:00-11:00 AM
Beginner's Clinic.....9:30-10:00 AM
Course Opens.....9:30 AM
Course Closes.....3:00 PM
Wrap-up/Course Reviews.....3:00-4:00 PM

Meet Director.....Matt Dixon
Setter.....Mike Franklin
Vetter.....Glenn Haselfeld
Mapper.....Pat Abbott
Equipment Set-up.....Bob Kuhn
Volunteers....."Your Name" ?

This event is going to need plenty of volunteers so please consider giving some of your time to the club. We'd like to have enough people for shifts so that everyone gets a chance to participate at some time during the day. If you can help as timer, registrar, control collector (after the meet), general helper, please contact Matt Dixon at motleymongoose@yahoo.com or call the club phone at (602) 212-6741.

Membership Fee Restructuring in the Works

We all hate to hear about rising costs, but we have to face an ugly reality. We must pay \$8.50 PER MEMBER (a family counts as 2 members) to the United States Orienteering Federation (USOF) for insurance and charter membership. It also costs about \$12 per year per address to print and send the newsletter. That's \$20.50 on a membership that currently costs \$12-\$14. To hold an event, permits range from \$40-\$80 and obviously there is the cost of making maps, control cards, etc. Our Land Navigation class has provided additional funds to subsidize our costs but we still have to do our best to reduce them. We are considering a restructuring of membership fees to help us out. While we are planning to increase our fees, we are going to DECREASE fees for those that sign on to get the newsletter in electronic form. We'll notify you by email when the latest newsletter is available on our website, and you can save the club lots of money by printing it out yourself. If you have comments on fees, please contact us by email at gphxoc@yahoo.com or by phone at (602) 212- 6741. We'll be discussing this at upcoming meetings.

January Scrabble-O Results and Wrap-Up

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Recreation Participants</u>
Cory Hove	262	The "O" Team
Andy Krebs	262	Lost & Found
Mike Minium	223	Lori Zito
Ron Birks	173	Douglas McCulley
Jennifer Kerr	115	Dee McCulley
Team Walktall	55	Mike M.
Eric Ringnes	87	James & Nicole Dismuke
Team Three Blind Mice	54	Dennis Piñon
Team Check Point	32	David Piñon
Jens	DNF	Dave Joder
Dan Hink	DNF	Forest Brown
		Marian Tallon
		Flying Squirrels
		Lost in Paradise

We had over 40 participants in January. At last, we have found an event that has given some of our "other" competitors a chance to show up in the top scorers. Scrabble-O required good orienteering skills to find the letters, but it also required good word skills to rack up the points. Everyone seemed to have a good time. We had a few out-of-town visitors join us and I hope they found desert orienteering different and challenging. Thanks to everyone who helped to put on this event. If I miss your name here, I apologize. Thanks to Richard Dewey the meet director who did a fantastic job organizing, and to Bob Kuhn for his usual marvelous job at equipment support. I saw several members taking turns at registration and timing, Rita, Jennifer and anyone else who took a turn - thanks so much. Thanks to Matt Dixon for course design and course setters Matt, Sheryl Berling-Wolff and Peter Neubauer. More thanks to Sheryl and Matt for hanging controls (and you too Richard and Tim for running those last controls out at the last minute) and for all of you who helped picked them up.

Semi-Annual Land Navigation Class April 1 & 3

Master the use of topographic map and compass to travel through the wilderness with skill and confidence. This class is an evening in-town session then a full day in the field at a site near the town of Superior. It is designed for adults and is a very intensive, hands-on program. Read all about it in our brochure which can be found online at our website.

We provide dinner at the classroom session, plus breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner at the field session. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the site. Students provide their own Silva Ranger 15 CL 360-degree compass. (Another model may be used if it has a baseplate, a mirrored lid with a site and a mechanical declination scale adjustment). A Silva compass may be rented for \$5.

Cost is \$100 (fully refundable until 3/25/2004). Members who have joined prior to Jan 1, 2004 get a \$20 discount. **Class alumni, if it's been awhile since you've been practicing, you may take the class again for half price (\$50.00).** Ask any of our previous students and they'll tell you what a great class it is. As our club president, Matt Dixon, likes to say, where else can you go on a catered hike like this?

World Championship ROGAINE May 8-9, 2004

The Tucson Orienteering Club is hosting the World Championship ROGAINE event this spring. This is not to be missed! Rogaining is the sport of long distance cross-country navigation for teams travelling on foot. The object is to score points by finding checkpoints located on the course within a specified time. Checkpoints may be visited in any order. Only 600 people will be allowed to register for this event. Competitor fee is \$75 through February 29th, \$100 through April 15th, and \$150 until the event. Spectator fee is \$30.

The event site is about a 4.5 hour drive from Phoenix in eastern-central Arizona. Exact directions to the site will be posted on April 17th, 2004. The event site was picked by Course Setter John Maier for its walkable forest of spruce, fir and aspen with no cactus, spiny or even nasty vegetation. This is the first time this terrain type has been used in an Arizona rogaine. A sampling of what awaits you may be glimpsed in the amateur photo gallery as seen through the lens of Course Setter John Maier! See pictures at http://rogaine.tucsonorienteering.org/photos_thumb1.htm

Here's a description of the area that will be used:

- Size: 250+ square kilometers
- Approximate Elevation: 2500-3000 meters
- Variation: 250 meters between low and high points
- Vegetation: 1/3 open (grasslands), 2/3 forested mostly with conifers (pine, fir, spruce) and aspen, no nasty vegetation
- Water: abundant, streams crossable
- Track network: heavy
- Runnability: variable
- Impediments: lumpy ground (grass tussocks) in some open areas, rockiness in some areas, a few deep drainages (less than 150 meters deep), some cliffs
- Wildlife: Elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, and wild turkey very likely to be encountered; also possible are fox, coyote, bear, wolf (Mexican Wolf release area), raptors, small mammals, etc.

More information and online registration at <http://rogaine.tucsonorienteering.org/index.htm>

OTHER ORIENTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

OHIO: The North Eastern Ohio Orienteering Club, from Cleveland, Ohio, in conjunction with Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Greater Akron Boy Scouts of America at Camp Manatoc is holding the North American Championships May 29-30, 2004 in Peninsula, Ohio. Get information at the NEOOC web site: <http://neoc.home.att.net/>. It is a USOF Sanctioned 2-Day A Meet – one day classic, one day sprint, using a new map by Ukrainian mapper Yefim Shtempler encompassing parts of one of America's newest national parks and the 75 year-old Camp Manatoc. It offers Blue and Red courses at 1:15,000; Green, Brown, Orange, Yellow, and White at 1:10,000. Contour interval 5m on both maps. There is tenting space, cabins, and RV space at the Boy Scout camp for nearly 1,000 people and many motels/hotels nearby.

BRATISLAVA: You are invited to attend a 4-day international event "Grand Prix Slovakia 2004" (July 8-11, 2004), which will take place in the area of the 2nd European Youth Orienteering Championship 2003. The Competition Centre will be in village Casta, 35 km from the capitol of Slovakia, Bratislava. The shortened long race (on July 10, 2004) is classified as a World Ranking Event. In addition to the orienteering, the organizers also invite all registered orienteers of categories from M,W 19 - to M,W 65 to the tasting of wines from the Male Karpaty area, a region famous and popular for its vineyards and wines. Information at www.sokol.host.sk/gps2004.

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

February 14	First Water B Meet (Joint JROTC)
February 17	Board Meeting
March 6	Saguaro Lake (Joint JROTC)
March 16	Board Meeting
April 1 & 3	Spring Land Navigation Class
May 8-9	World Rogaine Championship
June/July	Join with Tucson
August 14-15	Family Campout Mormon Mtn

Events can't happen without volunteers from the club. Volunteer today to help staff or set up for a meet. We'll be there to help you through your first, second, even tenth time so you don't have to go it alone.

We encourage our members to participate in the Tucson club events as well as our own. Not only is it an opportunity for more orienteering experience fairly close to home but they have some really great folks that we can learn a lot from while we enjoy their company.

Tucson Club Event Schedule

Feb 15	Chimney Rock mini-rogame
March 21	Cave Creek
April 18	Silverbell
May 8-9	World Rogaine Championship
Jun 20	Bear Wallow
July 18	Lake Mary
Aug 15	Lincoln Park Night-O
Sep 19	Greasewood City Park
Oct 17	Catalina State Park
Nov 21	Highway 83
Dec 19	Cat Mountain

Did you know that GPHXO O.C. members get the "member" rate for Tucson O.C. events? For details about the Tucson Club events, check their web page at www.tucsonorienteering.org

GPHXO Board Meetings:

Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month to discuss the business operations of the club and to plan for upcoming events. They are open to all members. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at 7:00 PM at the Tempe Library, downstairs in one of the study rooms.

2004 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Matt Dixon	motleymongoose@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mike Franklin	mikehike@earthlink.net
Secretary	OPEN	
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Newsletter	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Equipment	Bob Kuhn	ulazyk@cox.net
Membership	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Permits	Rita Locke	arizonarita@yahoo.com
Publicity	Tim Tablada	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	OPEN	
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Webmaster	Matt Dixon	motleymongoose@yahoo.com

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c/o Rockledge Services
P.O. Box 51114
Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

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... Join Phoenix Orienteering Today ...

Send form to:
Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
c/o Rockledge Services
P.O. Box 51114 Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114
Contact us at (602) 212-6741
gphxoc@yahoo.com

- NEW MEMBER INDIVIDUAL (\$12)
 RENEWAL FAMILY (\$14)

Yes, I can help staff a club meet. Call me.

Members receive a bi-monthly (or more) newsletter, have voting privileges, and receive a discount on club events and the Land Navigation class.

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

(AREA CODE) DAY TELEPHONE

(AREA CODE) EVENING TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS