



NEWSLETTER - January 2011



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

Classic Courses at Robbins Butte SATURDAY Jan 8, 2011

Yes, that is not a typo—we will be holding this event on a *Saturday*. Hopefully this will give an opportunity for some members who can't usually make it to the Sunday events.

“Classic” orienteering courses mean that the participant must visit the control points in the prescribed order printed on the map. We will have four courses available to suit a variety of skill levels:

- Combined white/yellow (beginner/advanced beginner) course—same course as last year
- Orange (intermediate)
- Green (advanced)
- Purple (long red / short blue) (advanced)

Robbins Butte is a relatively new map that is near the Buckeye Hills recreation area in the west Valley. The terrain is a mixture of rocky outcroppings (“Precambrian granite gneiss”) and flat desert.

Due to the relatively flat terrain and sparse vegetation, cross-country travel is “friendlier” than on some of our other maps—there are very few areas of dense cactus or catchlaw. On most parts of the map, terrain visibility is also excellent.

One other distinction for this event is that if you sign up on the *Orange* course as “*recreational*”, you will

have the option to use a GPS receiver as a navigation aid. At the time that you register, you can take a printed list of the coordinates for the controls with you—you can choose either to use the GPS as your primary navigation, or as “backup” to map and compass navigation. GPS receivers will not be allowed on the Green or Red Courses.

People of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. A free beginner's clinic will be available for new participants and those needing a refresher. You may start anytime after the course opens at 9 am until 11 am. Everyone, competitors and recreational participants alike, must be off the course and checked into the timer's table by 1 pm.

Schedule:

Registration Starts.....	9:00 am
Beginner's Clinic.....	9:30 am
Course opens.....	9:30 am
Last Time to Start a Course.....	11:00 am
Course Closes.....	1:00 pm

**More Details and
Directions on Page 2**

More Details for Robbins Butte

Cost (member/non-member):

Individual.....\$5/\$10
 Family / Team.....\$8/\$15

What to bring:

Water bottle(s), food.
 Whistle (required for all: available for \$1)
 Compass (available to rent for \$1)
 GPS receiver (optional, only allowed for
 “recreational Orange” course)

Volunteers:

We need volunteers to help with equipment setup, registration and timing tables, and with bag pick-up after the meet. Please contact Glenn Haselfeld (glenn-dianne@q.com) if you can help.

Directions

From Phoenix, go west on Interstate-10 to exit 112, then south on AZ Highway 85 for ~7 miles to milepost 147. Take a right at the sign for Robbins Butte Wildlife Area. Proceed ~3.8 miles on dirt road (bearing left at the sign “Powers Butte Wildlife Area & access to Robbins Butte (Mountain)”) to the Start Area (N33°18.8384' W112°40.8891 WGS-84). The road is passable to passenger cars.

From Tucson, Take Interstate-8 West from Casa Grande to Gila Bend. Take AZ Highway 85 north for ~27 miles and turn left at the sign for Robbins Butte Wildlife Area (a left turn lane just before milepost 147—before you cross the Gila River). Proceed ~3.8 miles on dirt road (bearing left at the sign “Powers Butte Wildlife Area & access to Robbins Butte (Mountain)”) to the Start Area (N33°18.8384' W112°40.8891). The road is passable to passenger cars.

Course Setter Class Coming in January

Have you ever wanted to learn how Orienteering courses are created? Join Forest Brown in January for an informal class on the basics of course planning, OCAD usage, and event preparation. You'll help design and set-up the Score-O for the Saguaro Lake event on February 13th.

This is a great opportunity to test the waters and see if course setting is something you'd like to get in to. It's also a great way to improve your map reading skills and understand the thought and strategy that goes into course design.

Classes will begin early January to begin planning and to familiarize you with the OCAD software. We'll also spend 2-3 weekend days out at Saguaro Lake for field checking and bag hanging. Contact Forest Brown at weakonrecon@yahoo.com for more information and to sign up.

Registration is open for the 3 day cornucopia of orienteering in Anza-Borrego State Park Jan 15-17. Details at: <http://go.to/sdoc>

December's Coon Bluff Event Write-Up

Coon Bluff is one of our favorite sites for hosting orienteering events. Its location close to Phoenix makes it easy for people to participate without having to drive a long distance. The terrain contains a lot of variety in a very compact area. This allows us to set challenging courses without too much effort.

We had a good turnout for this year's Coon Bluff event. The unseasonably warm weather gave everyone a great day to search the area for the 30 Score-O controls. While no one was able to visit all 30 controls, there was a tight competition for the top spots. Erik Ringnes was the overall winner collecting 29 of 30 controls (730 out of 750 points). His route consisted of two loops through the area, the first to collect controls in lower-level terrain, the second to visit points higher up in the hills. Tim Stefek collected the second-most number of controls (28) but was penalized for arriving slightly after the time limit. Any inefficiencies in Tim's route choice was more than offset by his speed. Ludwig Hill and Max Suter, two friends from the Tucson club, also had great runs bagging 27 and 26 controls respectively. They are consistently strong finishers and were barely edged out for this year's top spot.

The women's competition also proved to be a very close race. Kristen Peers and Tina Stefek chose different tactics to maximize their point totals. While Tina visited twice as many controls, Kristen's route choice took her to more difficult and therefore higher point locations. Kristen visited seven controls for a total of 260 points while Tina ran to 14 controls for 250 points. Great race girls!

A number of teams also participated in the event. Team Arizona (Tom Fleck and Brandon Mann) made a great showing by clearing 24 controls. Their time of 1:59:55 wins them the award for the best time management of the day, finishing the course with only 5 seconds to spare. Team Skata (Gary Hickey, Andy Allman, and Calli Allman) showed great enthusiasm as they powered their way to 15 controls. Calli was undoubtedly the pace-setter for the team, but the guys certainly provided her with entertainment during their run.

We also had a few first-time participants. Team Go Cats (Merridith Haskell and Julie Claderwood) and the Boggs Family (Arthur, Maricar, and Arthur J. Boggs) enjoyed the challenge of finding the mapped controls. Their natural navigation skills allowed them to wander the area and find an impressive number of points for first-time orienteers. Our friends on Team Cameron (Mareena Sweat and Cameron Giovanniello) also had a good showing for their first time.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Coon Bluff event. The only real satisfaction we get out of setting our orienteering courses is your participation. I want to specifically thank Deb Allen and Glenn Haselfeld for their help getting everything put away after the event. It takes a lot of time to organize and run an event. I really appreciate your help after the event is complete. Finally, thanks to Kathi Douglas, Odie, and Brodie for their help before, during, and after the event. I wouldn't be able to direct an event without your help.

We hope to see you all out there for our January 8 event at Robbins Butte.

December's Coon Bluff Event Results

Categories: M - Male
 F - Female
 TM - Male Team
 TF - Female Team
 TX - Mixed Team

Coon Bluff Score-O 5-Dec-10									
Total Points Possible:		750							
Number of Controls:		30							
Straight-Line Distance:		8.7 km							
Total Participants:		36							
Overall Place	Competitor	Total Points	Penalty Points *	Number of Controls	Time	Category	Rank	Grand Prix Points	Team Members
1	Erik Ringnes	730	0	29	1:58:20	M	1	10	
2	Ludwig Hill	710	0	27	1:58:06	M	2	9	
3	Tim Stefek	690	30	28	2:02:10	M	3	8	
4	Arizona	670	0	24	1:59:55	TM	1		Tom Fleck, Brandon Mann
5	Max Suter	640	60	26	2:05:08	M	4	7	
6	Glenn Haselfeld	600	0	20	1:58:24	M	5	6	
7	Rick Eastman	570	0	18	1:57:00	M	6	5	
8	Gary Parkinson	500	0	17	1:47:30	M	7	4	
9	Jim Stevens	500	20	19	2:01:19	M	8	3	
10	Bob Wolf	470	0	15	1:52:25	M	9	2	
11	Team Skata	440	0	15	1:58:48	TX	1		Gary Hickey, Andy Allman, Calli Allman
12	Kevin Adams	390	30	13	2:02:23	M	10	1	
13	Losers	330	60	16	2:05:30	TM	2	0	Bob Badgett, Wendy Badgett
14	Matt Zeilnan	390	30	13	2:02:23	M	10	1	
15	Kristen Peers	260	0	7	1:57:00	F	1	10	
16	Tina Stefek	250	0	14	1:58:50	F	2	9	
17	Peg Davis	240	0	14	1:55:35	F	3	8	
18	Laura Hinds	200	0	10	1:46:40	F	4	7	
19	Team Fedyk	160	0	11	1:43:43	TX	2		Tatiana Fedyk, Mash Fedyk, Yurii Fedyk
20	Team BB	160	0	8	1:59:46	TX	3		Darrell Bolt, Hillary Barton
21	Deb Allen	130	0	7	1:59:20	F	5	6	
22	Go Cats	120	0	9	1:46:52	TF	1		Merridi Haskell, Julie Calderwood
23	Boggs Family	120	0	8	2:00:00	TX	4		Arthur B. Boggs, Maricar Boggs, Arthur J. Boggs
24	Lee Craven	100	0	6	1:48:44	M	12		
25	Team Cameron	70	0	5	1:46:15	TX	5		Mareena Sweat, Cameron Giovanniello
26	Kathi Douglas	20	0	2	2:00:00	F	6		

Thanks to all our Coon Bluff volunteers. We cannot have meets without you.	
Course Setter:	Ron Birks
Meet Director:	Ron Birks
Bag Hangers:	Ron Birks
Water Station Setup:	None
Equipment Hauling:	Ron Birks, Glenn Haselfeld
Setup/Tear-down:	Ron Birks, Kathi Douglas, Glenn Haselfeld, Deb Allen
Registration Table:	Kathi Douglas, Deb Allen
Timing Table:	Ron Birks, Glenn Haselfeld
Beginners Clinic:	Ron Birks
Control Retrieval:	Ron Birks, Glenn Haselfeld, Deb Allen
Tabulating Results:	Ron Birks

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

Jan 15-18, 2011	Anza Borrego (San Diego)
Jan 23	Cat Mountain Classic-O
Feb 19-20	Box Canyon 2-Day Classic B Meet
Mar 6	Univ of Arizona Sprint
Mar 20	Kentucky Camp Score-O
Apr 17	Greasewood Park Score-O
May 15	Greaterville Classic-O
Jun 19	Tucson Street-O
Sept 18	Bear Wallow
Nov 20	Catalina State park
Dec 18	Ironwood Picnic Area

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

January 2011	Course Setter Classes
Jan 8, 2011	Robbin's Butte Classic-O
Feb 13	Saguaro Lake Score-O
Mar 13	First Water
Apr 2	Land Navigation Class
Apr 10	Bombay Mine
May 21	Prescott Bike-O

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.tucsonorienteeringclub.org

2010-2011 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Forest Brown (acting)	weakonrecon@yahoo.com
Vice President	Tim Tablada (acting)	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Secretary	Patricia Abbott (acting)	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott (acting)	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Newsletter	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Equipment	OPEN	
Membership	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Permits	Erik Ringnes	ringnes@cox.net
Publicity	Tim Tablada	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Forest Brown	weakonrecon@yahoo.com
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Webmaster	Ron Birks	birksr@aztecfreenet.org

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

GPHXO Newsletter January 2011

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club

... 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 RENEWAL

CHOOSE: *mail me the monthly newsletter:*
 FAMILY (\$17) INDIVIDUAL (\$15)

OR: *download/view newsletter on website:*
 FAMILY (\$12) INDIVIDUAL (\$10)

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

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

(AREA CODE) DAY TELEPHONE

(AREA CODE) EVENING TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS (*required for web membership discount; we will email you when the new newsletter is on the website*)