



# NEWSLETTER - December 2014



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

## 12/6 Sprint Events & 12/7 Lake Pleasant

For December, we present two separate orienteering events at two different locations.

### **Saturday 12/6 - Sprint at Papago Park**

On **Saturday 12/6**, we are offering **Beginner's Training** and two **Sprint Events** at **Papago Park** in Phoenix.

The **Beginner's Training** runs from 8 am to 10 am (two hours), at the Sports Complex. The Beginner's Training is a hands-on course teaching basic concepts used for land navigation and the sport of orienteering. Participants learn techniques to navigate using only a map and compass (No GPS!)

The **Sprint Courses** (which we have made "beginner-friendly") run from 10 am to 1 pm.

Sprint courses are 2-4 km; most orienteers will be able to finish each course in under 30 minutes. You must find every control on the course; the winner is based on how long it takes. You may compete as an individual or as part of a team.

**Papago Park is a City of Phoenix site, and you must register through the City of Phoenix Registration Site at <http://www.phoenix.gov/parks> - you can't show up and sign up. Sorry, that's how the city sites work.**

Navigation on the Sprint courses is intentionally easier than on other events, and to tie in with our Beginner's Clinic, we are keeping these courses especially simple!

### **Sunday 12/7 - Score-O at Lake Pleasant**

On **Sunday 12/7**, we are planning a **Score-O Event** near Lake Pleasant (northwest of the Phoenix metro area). Registration begins at 9:00 am, the course opens at 9:30 am and closes at 2:00 pm). There will be a short Beginner's Clinic at 9:30, as well.

The Lake Pleasant events are run by GPHXO, so you register when you arrive at the site.

The goal of a Score-O is to find as many controls as you can in any order. You have three hours max to get back to start or penalty points kick in. Points are assigned to each control based on difficulty and distance away from start. The challenge is to maximize your score through strategic route planning.

*more details inside...*

# Sunday December 7 - Lake Pleasant

The Score-O goal is to find as many controls as you can in any order. You have three hours max to get back to start or penalty points kick in. Points are assigned to each control based on difficulty and distance away from start. The challenge is to maximize your score through strategic route planning. Three hours means you'll have time to get deeper into the beautiful desert terrain. Two washes allow you to get back to start easily if you wonder around too long.

People of all skill levels can participate. Just finding a few controls can be satisfying. Help for beginners is available. You may start anytime after the event opens, but everyone must be back to start by 2 pm when the event closes.

Beginners: If you'd like to learn some orienteering basics before the Score-O, consider joining us for our beginner's events on Dec. 6 at Papago Park.

### Schedule

Registration Begins.....	9:00 am
Beginner's Clinic .....	9:30 am
Course Opens .....	9:30 am
Course Closes .....	2:00 pm

### Costs

Individual .....	\$5 member, \$10 non-member
Family or Team.....	\$8 / \$15

### Directions

#### I-17 and the Carefree Highway

- Take the Carefree Highway exit off I-17. (Northbound, take exit 223B. Southbound, take exit 223.)
- Travel west on the Carefree Highway (SR 74) 13.2 miles to Christian Church Camp Road.
- There is no sign to labeling this road. The road is 0.6 miles west of milepost 18, approximately 1.5 miles west of the main Lake Pleasant entrance road. (Castle Hot Springs Road) There is a prominent thumb butte on the south side of the highway at the turn off. Look for orange/white orienteering sign marking the turn off from SR 74.
- Travel north on Christian Church Camp Road 0.7 miles to the event site located on the east side of the road.

#### Lake Pleasant Parkway

Participants who live near Beardsley Road and 83rd Avenue can get to the event using the Lake Pleasant Parkway - please see our website for directions to the event from the Parkway.

### Coon Bluff Event Results

Congratulations to the top finishers in our November Events at Coon Bluff. Visit [gphxo.org](http://gphxo.org) for full results and event writeup.

**White course:** Panther Training (Daryl Yost, Daniel Zuniga, Maryvale JROTC); Slow & Steady

**Yellow course:** Daniel Zuniga, Arturo olo, Ulysse Roman (all from Maryvale JROTC)

**Brown Course:** Debbie Allen, Soto/Zuniga, Irene Fabig

**Green Course:** Daniel Heininger, Ron Birks, David Marks

# Saturday December 6 - Papago Park

We are very excited to team up with the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department for this event. Along with City of Phoenix Park Rangers, we'll introduce participants to concepts of navigation using only a map and compass. We'll then apply the concepts to navigate through a beginner's course shown on a map similar to ones we use at our orienteering events.

The **Beginner's Training** is a hands-on course teaching basic concepts used for land navigation and the sport of orienteering. Participants learn techniques to navigate using only a map and compass (No GPS!) and practice the techniques outdoors on orienteering courses located at the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area.

The Beginning Orienteering training is open to participants of all ages and at all levels of skill and fitness. Our goal is to teach some of the basic navigation concepts that you can then use to participate in future orienteering events. If you're looking for a fun new and different way to enjoy the outdoors, please consider signing up for our class.

## **Beginner's Training**

Students will walk up to four kilometers, with day packs, learning and practicing land navigation techniques used for orienteering. The field training covers compass use, interpreting topographical maps, and several methods of getting from point to point using only a map and compass.

We will provide participants with a) a topographical map of the class area, b) course materials, and c) several hours of orienteering instruction. We know

you will be so excited about what you learn that you will join us for one of our many orienteering events

It is best if students can provide their own compass. The suggested model is a 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. We will provide compasses for those who do not have their own.

## **Sprint Events**

The Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club will offer a number of sprint events throughout the orienteering season. Each sprint event will include one or more courses in a single day. Individual participants will collect points for each course they complete. We'll crown winners in several categories at the end of the season based on the best three results for each participant.

The sprint courses will vary in length from 2-4 km. Courses are designed for winning times from 12-20 minutes. Most participants will finish each course in under 30 minutes. Navigation on the sprint courses is intentionally easier than for normal orienteering events. The emphasis for sprint orienteering courses is on rapid decision making rather than on precision navigation. While our sprint courses are offered to seasoned orienteers as a nice alternative to regular events, beginning orienteers will also find that they are able to complete the courses without much difficulty.

The sprint courses for this event have been designed to be especially "beginner friendly."

## Schedule

Beginner's Training ..... 8 am (Sports Complex)  
Beginner's Training Ends ..... 10 am  
Sprint Courses ..... 10 am (Papago Buttes)  
Last Sprint Course start time ..... 12 noon  
Sprint Courses close ..... 1 pm

## Directions

The **Beginner's Clinic and practice course** start from the Papago Sports Complex, 6201 E. Oak Street.

### From the intersection of McDowell Road and 64th Street:

- Travel north on 64th Street 0.5 miles to Oak Street.
- Turn west on Oak and travel 0.3 miles to the entrance of the Papago Sports Complex.
- Travel south on the Papago Sports Complex road 0.1 miles to the entrance of the archery range.
- Turn west and continue 0.2 miles to the parking area.
- The Papago Sports Complex orienteering event site is located next to the archery range parking lot.

The **Sprint Events** start at Papago Buttes (625 N. Galvin Parkway):

- **Traveling eastbound on the loop 202**, take the 52nd St/Van Buren St exit (exit 4).
- At 52nd Street, turn south and travel about 0.3 miles to Van Buren.
- Turn east on Van Buren and travel 0.8 miles to Galvin Parkway.
- Turn north on Galvin Parkway and drive 0.3 miles to the Phoenix Zoo turnoff.
- **DO NOT TURN INTO THE PHOENIX ZOO.** Instead, turn west onto Papago Park road. The event parking is 0.1 miles up this road.

- **Traveling westbound on the Loop 202**, take the Center Pkwy/Priest Dr exit (exit 6).
- After exiting, stay to the left and continue towards Priest Drive.
- At Priest Drive, turn north and continue approximately 1.3 miles to the Phoenix Zoo turnoff.
- **DO NOT TURN INTO THE PHOENIX ZOO.** Instead, turn west onto Papago Park road. The event parking is 0.1 miles up this road.
- **From the intersection of McDowell Road and Galvin Parkway**, travel south on the Galvin Parkway for approximately 1.0 miles to the turnoff for the Phoenix zoo.
- **DO NOT TURN INTO THE PHOENIX ZOO.** Instead of turning left (east) to enter the zoo, turn right (west) to enter Papago Park. The parking area is about 0.1 miles west after turning off Galvin Parkway.

## City of Phoenix Registration

- navigate to phoenix.gov/parks
- [Register for a Class or Program]
- [View and Register for Fall Classes]
- **Do not select anything that indicates "New Website" - this class is only available on the OLD website**
- Enter the BARCODE in the search box. The barcode for BOTH events is 108929.
- click [Add]
- Select [Login] or [Create Account]
- Finish your registration for the events.

The registration barcode for BOTH events is

**108929**

## Participants under age 18:

All participants under age 18 are now required to have a signed parental consent form on file with the club. You can complete the form (available on the [gphxo.org](http://gphxo.org) website) before the event and either scan it and send it to us by e-mail or bring it with you to the event.

## What to Bring

- water bottles & water. There will be water at the start/finish, and one or two water stations out on the course.
- whistle - required, can purchase for \$1
- compass - can rent for \$1
- sunscreen
- sturdy hiking shoes and long pants

**REMINDER:** for the December 6 events at Papago Park, you *must* pre-register on the City of Phoenix registration site - there will be no onsite registration.

## GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

Sat. Jan 10 2015 - Robbins Butte  
Sat-Sun, Feb. 14-15 - Location TBD  
Sun March 15 - First Water  
Sat April 11 - Reach 11 Clinic & Sprints  
Sun April 12 - Saguaro Lake

## Tucson Club Event Schedule

GPHXO members are welcome to participate in events run by the Tucson Orienteering Club. Please visit their website for information on their fall schedule:

[www.tucsonorienteeringclub.org](http://www.tucsonorienteeringclub.org)

*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.*

## 2013-2014 Club Officers

President	Forest Brown	<a href="mailto:weakonrecon@yahoo.com">weakonrecon@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	Tim Tablada	<a href="mailto:ttracker20@hotmail.com">ttracker20@hotmail.com</a>
Secretary	Patricia Abbott	<a href="mailto:p.abbott@cox.net">p.abbott@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott	<a href="mailto:p.abbott@cox.net">p.abbott@cox.net</a>
Newsletter	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	<a href="mailto:sherylb@cox.net">sherylb@cox.net</a>
Equipment	OPEN	
Membership	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	<a href="mailto:sherylb@cox.net">sherylb@cox.net</a>
Permits	Erik Ringnes	<a href="mailto:ringnes@cox.net">ringnes@cox.net</a>
Publicity	Tim Tablada	<a href="mailto:ttracker20@hotmail.com">ttracker20@hotmail.com</a>
Volunteer Coordinator	Forest Brown	<a href="mailto:weakonrecon@yahoo.com">weakonrecon@yahoo.com</a>
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	<a href="mailto:p.abbott@cox.net">p.abbott@cox.net</a>
Webmaster	Ron Birks	<a href="mailto:birks@yahoo.com">birks@yahoo.com</a>

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P.O. Box 51114  
Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

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# 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 [gphxoc@yahoo.com](mailto:gphxoc@yahoo.com)**

*(we no longer have a phone # - contact via email - thanks!)*

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

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STREET ADDRESS

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CITY, STATE, ZIP

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(AREA CODE) DAY TELEPHONE

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(AREA CODE) EVENING TELEPHONE

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