



# NEWSLETTER - May 2015



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

## Sat. May 9 - Thumb Butte Big Juniper

Escape the heat of the desert and enjoy a day of orienteering in the cool pines near Prescott. On Saturday, May 9, we'll offer three events plus a clinic for beginners.

### **Beginners' Clinic - 9 am**

We're happy to offer a beginner's clinic for those new to the sport or those who need a refresher on basic orienteering techniques. The clinic will begin at 9:00 AM. Allow two hours for the clinic, plus any additional time out on the courses

### **2-Hour Score-O**

A "Score-O" is an event where participants visit the controls in any order. Each control is worth a specific number of points, determined by the leading digit in the control number. A strict two hour time limit is enforced. The penalty for a finish time greater than two hours is 10 points for every minute late - so finishing on time is a key component to a successful strategy.

The terrain is mountainous, and predominately ponderosa pine forest. Steep terrain, rocky soil and forest debris tend to slow down cross country travel. There are virtually no cacti, but beware the New Mexican Locust bush, having thorns similar to a rose bush.

Due to the 40-foot contours, there is not a lot of

detail showing smaller reentrants. In lieu of that, smaller reentrants have been mapped as "shallow water channel" (dashed blue lines).

### **Classic Bike-O**

For our mountain biking friends, we're offering a Bike-O course that will give participants a nice tour of the Thumb Butte area while allowing them to practice their navigation skills. The Bike-O course is a Classic course which means that individuals and teams visit control locations in numeric order.

### **5-Hour Adventure Race**

For those of you who need a little more excitement, Saturday's events will include a 5-hour adventure race. During the adventure race, participants start the day by using a UTM tool to plot a number of points on a map then visiting the plotted points on foot. The Trek section of the race should take between 30 minutes and one hour to complete. Then there is a Bike-O section that will take 2-3 hours. Finally, contestants will visit the same controls as our 2-Hour Score-O participants. See the club website [gphxo.org](http://gphxo.org) for further information including a list of mandatory gear, rules, and detailed adventure race instructions.

**All courses close at 1:00 pm, with penalties for late finishers. For more event details, please visit our website at [gphxo.org](http://gphxo.org)**

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club  
[gphxo.org](http://gphxo.org)

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

## Saturday, May 9

### Beginner's Clinic

Class Starts ..... 9 am  
Practice Course Closes ..... 1 pm

The Beginner's Clinic is free of charge to anyone registered for any of our other May 9 events.

### Score-O (2-Hour Time Limit)

Course Opens ..... 9 am  
Last Start Time ..... 11 am  
Course Closes ..... 1 pm

Individual .....\$5 (member) / \$10 (non member)  
Team/Family ..... \$8 (member) / \$15 (non-member)

### Bike-O (no time limit, until 1:00 pm)

Course Opens ..... 9 am  
Last Start Time ..... 11 am  
Course Closes ..... 1 pm

Individual .....\$5 (member) / \$10 (non member)  
Team/Family ..... \$8 (member) / \$15 (non-member)

### Adventure Race (5 Hour AR)

Transition Area Opens ..... 7 am  
Mandatory Pre-Race Meeting ..... 7:45 am  
Mass Start ..... 8 am  
Course Closes ..... 1 pm

### Directions

- From the I-17/Loop 101 interchange in North Phoenix, travel north on Interstate 17 approximately 47 miles to Cordes Junction exit 262.
- Exit I-17 at exit 262. Stay in the left lanes to merge onto AZ highway 69 towards Prescott.
- Continue north and west on AZ 69 approximately 35 miles to downtown Prescott. Highway 69 and 89 merge just before Prescott. Stay in the left lane as you approach the intersection with Highway 89. The road turns into East

Gurley Street and goes by Courthouse Square and Whiskey Row (mile 0).

- From Courthouse Square, travel west on Gurley approximately 1.4 miles to where Gurley becomes Thumb Butte Road.
- Keep left on Thumb Butte Road and continue west for an additional 2.1 miles to the Thumb Butte Park Recreation Area.
- After arriving at the Thumb Butte Day Use Area, continue on Thumb Butte Road for approximately 1.8 miles to the intersection with Forest Road 373 (FR 373).
- Turn left and travel south on FR 373 for approximately 1.8 miles. The road will cross a small creek and climb a large hill. After the terrain levels off, look for orange and white orienteering signs at FR 51.
- Take a left onto FR 51 and travel to the event site about 300 meters down the road.
- FR 51 is rough but accessible to passenger cars. Park along the side of FR 51. Please keep the road clear and leave space for other vehicles to park.

### What to Bring:

- Whistle (Mandatory for all. Available for purchase for \$1)
- Compass (Mandatory for all. Available for rent for \$1)
- Water. There will be water at the start/finish. We will also have one or two water stations on the course. However, you are strongly encouraged to bring your own water bottles or a camelback.
- Sun screen. There is little or no shade on the course.

Sturdy hiking shoes and long pants are recommended. You may encounter cactus, cat claw, and loose terrain, especially on the Score-O.

### Participants under age 18 (all events):

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.

## GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

May 9 - Prescott

Please visit our web site:

<http://www.gphxo.org>

...for the latest schedule and event details! We take off for the summer, but Tucson Orienteering has events planned all year long!

## 2015 JROTC Programs

High School JROTC Orienteering teams are the primary method for developing new, competitive orienteers. Two of our club members, Daryl Yost and Glenn Haselfeld, are OUSA certified orienteering coaches, and have been working to encourage young cadets to make orienteering a lifelong sport. To learn more about our JROTC connection, visit:

[http://gphxo.org/Events/2015\\_JROTC\\_Programs.htm](http://gphxo.org/Events/2015_JROTC_Programs.htm)

Did you know that GPHXO O.C. members get the “member” rate for Tucson O.C. events?

Please visit the Tucson club’s website:

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

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## April Event Results

**4/11 Adobe Dam:** Top finishers in Sprint 1 were Erik Ringnes, Barry Moon, Team Gunstra, Gary Hickey and the Usual Suspects. In Sprint 2, Barry Moon, Gary Hickey and Richard Fawcett Thanks to Ron Birks, Kathi Douglas, Ronda Markworth, Jutta Stengel, Gary Hickey and Rich Orndoff for setting up the event.

**4/12 Saguaro Lake:** Top individual finishers in the Score-O were Ron Birks, Erik Ringnes and Matt Gunstra. Top Team Finishers were Jimmy Johns, Chasing Birks and Jacky and Daniel. Thank you to Tom Allen, Gary Hickey, Ron Birks, and Derrick Beracy for control retrieval and special thanks to Ron Birks for equipment hauling and set up assistance.

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### 2014-2015 CLUB OFFICERS:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary / Publicity  
Treasurer  
Permits  
Mapping  
Equipment  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Newsletter  
Membership  
Webmaster

Ron Birks (acting)  
Glenn Haselfeld  
Gary Hickey  
Forest Brown  
Erik Ringnes  
Glenn Haselfeld, Ron Birks  
Gary Hickey, Erik Ringnes  
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Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

**GPHXO Newsletter May 2015**

# 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
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)*