



NEWSLETTER - August 2016



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

Sat. Aug 27: Fort Tuthill (Flagstaff)

We're excited to offer a new event site for you to practice your navigation skills. In partnership with the Flagstaff Extreme Adventure Course, we're hosting two orienteering events on Saturday, August 27 at the Fort Tuthill County Park just south of Flagstaff.

Beginner's Clinic

We'll use this clinic to teach basic navigation concepts that will help you navigate through any of our orienteering events. These same concepts are equally useful for any land navigation using a compass and topographic maps. .

2-Hour Score-O

Beginners and experienced orienteers alike can explore the Fort Tuthill area during our 2-hour Score-O. Score-O participants can take up to 2 hours to search for control destinations spread throughout a designated area. The Score-O has challenges for both beginning and experienced orienteers.

During a Score-O, participants take up to a designated time limit to search for controls indicated on a pre-printed orienteering map. Controls are assigned different point values based on the distance they are located from the starting point and on the navigation difficulty. Participants are not required to follow a set course but instead try to maximize their point total through their own route choice.

Flagstaff Extreme

After orienteering, you're welcome to try your hand at the Flagstaff Extreme world-class tree-top adventure course.

Pre-registration for these events is recommended. Visit http://gphxo.org/Events/2016/20160827_FortTuthill.htm for a link to our google docs pre-registration page.

Schedule & Costs

Registration Begins 8:30 am
Beginner's Clinic, Score-O Starts 9 am
Last Score-O Start Time..... noon
Score-O course closes 2 pm
Last Score-O finish time 2:30 pm

Beginner's Clinic \$5 / participant
Individual\$5 member / \$10 non-member
Team.....\$8 member / \$15 non-member

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 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 (all events):

- Whistle (Mandatory for all. Available for purchase at Phoenix events for \$1)
- Compass (Mandatory for all. Available for rent at Phoenix events for \$1)
- Water. There will be water at the start/finish .
- Sun screen.

Sturdy hiking shoes and long pants are recommended. You may encounter cactus, cat claw, and loose terrain.

Directions to Fort Tuthill

From the Phoenix area:

- Travel north on I-17 to exit 337. This is the exit for both the Fort Tuthill County Park and the Flagstaff Airport.
- After exiting I-17, travel west to the large roundabout, then continue west from the roundabout into the Fort Tuthill County Park.
- Turn right (north) at the first turn to follow the entrance road into the park.
- Turn left (west) at the next turn to continue to the large parking area to the north of the Flagstaff Extreme main office. Look for the orange and white orienteering signs.

Please see the GPHXO website for more detailed directions, including Google Maps coordinates and maps.

Note on Pre-Registration

As noted, pre-registration is encouraged but not required. We base the number of maps we print on the pre-registration count, so to ensure we have a map for you, please pre-register!

Recent Event Results

May 7 - Spence Creek

It was a cloudy and cool day (with even a bit of rain and hail) for running the Classic courses. We had a total of 34 orienteers out on foot and/or mountain bike. The advanced (Green and Blue) courses turned out to be a bit of a technical challenge, with slower-than-normal course completion times and several "did-not-finish" (DNF) results. Hopefully, as the logged areas grow back, the trails will become more distinct and the temporary paths will fade away.

For the Biking course, the Old-N-Phat team (Dave Sewell & Michael Taylor) easily won the event with a time of 2:32:50. Ron Birks had the second fastest time of 3:27:47. Ron (who had already completed the Blue course) was retrieving the controls while racing. Somehow, he has mastered riding a bike while draping 16 controls over one arm! Ron was also the only one to complete both the Bike and Foot events.

To see the routes taken on the Blue course by Ron Birks and Erik Ringnes, download the Blue tracks file from our online results page at:

http://gphxo.org/Results/2016_05_07_SpenceCreek.htm

Ron's track is a magenta color, while Erik's is Green. You will note the different approaches to route choice--Ron took more trails, while Erik chose more off-trail approaches. Also, visit that page for full event results and times.

Thanks much to the volunteers for helping with the event, especially those who helped retrieve controls after completing a course: Ron Birks, Rick Eastman, Andy Wentzel, Erik Ringnes and Russ Pilcher.



GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

Saturday September 10 - Lowell Observatory (Flag)

Sat - Sun October 15-16 - Petrified Forest

Sat November 12 - Mesquite Library Beginner's Clinic & Practice Course

Sunday November 13 - Lake Pleasant Score-O

Saturday December 10 - Papago Park Beginner's Clinic and Sprint events

Saturday December 10 - Coon Bluff Night-O

Sunday December 11 - Saguaro Lake Score-O

Saturday January 7, 2017 - Robbins Butte Score-O

Saturday February 11 - Mesquite Library Clinic
Saturday February 11 - Needle Vista Night-O

Sunday February 12 - First Water Score-O

Sat or Sun March 4 or 5 - new event location

Saturday April 8 - Reach 11 Beginner's Clinic
Saturday April 8 - Saguaro Lake Night-O

Sunday April 9 - Coon Bluff Score-O

Sat or Sun May 13 or 14 - Prescott Area event

Did you know that GPHXO O.C. members get the "member" rate for Tucson O.C. events? Next Tucson event is October 9 at Kentucky Camp.

Please visit the Tucson club's website:

www.tucsonorienteeringclub.org

And check out the GPHXO online store:

**[www.cafepress.com/
greaterphoenixorienteeringclub](http://www.cafepress.com/greaterphoenixorienteeringclub)**

We're also at:

www.meetup.com/Phoenix-Orienteering

and

www.facebook.com/GPHXO

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GPHXO Newsletter August 2016

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club

... Join Phoenix Orienteering Today ...

Send form to:
Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
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P.O. Box 51114 Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

Contact us at 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: *email & 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)*