



NEWSLETTER - Feb 2016



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

February, March & Southwest Spring

There are LOTS of Orienteering events to choose from over the next few weeks... here's a summary, and the details are inside!

Feb. 20-28: Southwest Spring Week - SWSW (Tucson Events)

The Tucson Orienteering Club and the Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club invite you to join us for a week of map and compass in the sunny desert at the end of February.

- **Saturday, February 20:** morning long courses and a Night -O training course at Catalina State Park (Tucson)
- **Sunday, February 21:** morning classic courses at Catalina State Park (Tucson)
- **Monday, February 22:** courses using "virtual" controls on the University of Arizona campus (Tucson)
- **Tuesday, February 23:** long and short Goat in the rolling grasslands south of Tucson
- **Wednesday, February 24:** classic courses on the desert at Ironwood Picnic Ground (Tucson)

Sat. Feb. 27 - Robbins Butte Score-O, Bike-O, Adventure Race (GPHXO)

- **Saturday, February 27:** 3 hour score-O at challenging flats of Robbins Butte, southwest of Phoenix - plus Bike-O and an Adventure Race. In a Score-O, each control has a point value based on difficulty, but you can visit whichever controls you want, in any order.

Sun. Feb. 28 - Papago Park Sprints

Sunday, February 28: sprints at desert Papago Park in the heart of Phoenix. You need to **pre-register for this event**, there will not be any on-site registration! However, pre-registration is simpler this time; fill in the SWSW pre-reg form on the Tucson O website so that we know you're coming. "Sprints" are simple O courses, but you have to visit the controls in a specific order!

March 12 - Beginner's Training & Short Courses

We are planning a training event and a day of orienteering practice at Adobe Dam on **Saturday March 12th**. Please check the GPHXO website for details, we're still planning!

There will also be a Beginner's Training event at the Mesquite Library (Paradise Valley Mall) on **Wednesday March 9th**. See page 4 or check the website for details.

March 13 - Saguaro Lake Score-O

This will be a three-hour Score-O and a free Beginners' Clinic.

See inside for directions, schedules and other event details, and join us for some or all of Southwest Spring Week !

We're also at:

www.meetup.com/Phoenix-Orienteering and
www.facebook.com/GPHXO

FOR ALL EVENTS:

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 . See specific events for additional water.
- 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.

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.

January Event Results

For the January First Water event, we had 62 participants - a great turnout!

Congratulations to Ron Birks for his ridiculous performance. He was able to tag 24 out of 25 controls. Andy Wentzel also nailed 24 controls but came in second in total points. For the teams category, Rib Mountain Racing took the top spot with 690 points. Team T&T&K grabbed 2nd with 620 points and Team Miles took 3rd with 610 points.

Thank you to Forest Brown for setting the course, and to Gary Hickey, Erik Ringnes, Derrick Beracy, Ann Tian, Pam Barnhart and Ron Birks for helping!

Feb. 20-28: Southwest Spring Week - SWSW (Tucson Events)

GPHXO and the Tucson Orienteering Club are joining forces to present a whole week of Orienteering events.

Schedule

Sat. Feb. 20: morning Long courses, Night-O training course at Catalina State Park in Tucson

Sun. Feb. 21: morning Classic-O courses at Catalina State Park

Mon. Feb. 22: U of A campus, courses using "virtual" controls

Saturday, Sunday and Monday can also include an orienteering training camp with U.S. Junior Team coach Erin Schirm. There is an additional charge to join the camp. Juniors (20 and under) and adults (over 20) are both welcome.

Tue. Feb. 23: long and short Goat in the rolling grassland south of Tucson

Wed. Feb. 24: Classic courses in the desert at Ironwood Picnic Ground (in Tucson Mtn. Park, west of Tucson)

Registration

Registration for these events is being handled by Tucson O - follow the link to "Pre-register!" at <http://tucsonorienteeringclub.org/>

Participants under age 18 must have a waiver form (different than the GPHXO waiver form)

Directions

All directions and other information about the Tucson area events can be found on the Tucson O website, tucsonorienteeringclub.org .

Sat. Feb. 27th – Robbins Butte

On Saturday, February 27, the Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club is offering three separate . Our primary event is a 3-hour Score-O. For those who enjoy mountain bikes, we'll have a Bike-O course through more of the area. Finally, we're offering a longer Adventure Race that includes navigation by both mountain bike and on foot. There will be water at the start and one or two water stations on the course.

Schedule

Score-O Registration 8:30am
Score-O Course Open 9 am
Beginner's Clinic 9:30 am
Last Score-O Start Time 11 am
Score-O Course Closes 1:30 pm

Bike-O Registration Starts 8:30 am
Bike-O Course Opens 9 am
Last Bike-O Start Time 11 am
Bike-O Course Closes 1:30

Adventure Race Registration 7 am
AR Mandatory Pre-Race Meeting 7:45 am
AR Mass Start 8 am
AR Finishes (penalties for arriving late) 1 pm

Registration

We encourage you to pre-register for any events at the Tucson O website, although we can accept day-of-event registration.

Score-O (member/non-member) \$10/13
Bike-O \$10/13
Adventure Race \$20

Directions

Starting at Milepost 147 from **Arizona Highway 85**, turn west at the sign for Robbins Butte Wildlife Area.

Continue approximately 3.8 miles on a dirt road. Keep left when you arrive at a sign indicating "Robbins Butte Wildlife Area & access to Robbins Butte". The road is a little bumpy but passable to passenger cars.

Arrive at the Robbins Butte event parking and start/finish line on the south side of the road just south-east of Robbins Butte.

See the GPHXO website for more detailed directions.

Sun. Feb. 28th – Papago Park

On Sunday, February 28, we are partnering with the City of Phoenix to present two short "sprint" courses at Papago Park in Phoenix. These are "classic" courses where participants travel to destinations in the order they're marked on the map. The sprint courses will vary in length from 2-4 km. Most participants will finish each course in under 40 minutes.

Schedule

Set up (NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION!) ... 8:30 am
Courses open 9 am
Last start time 12 noon
Courses close 1 pm

Registration

Member / Non-Member \$10/13

You **MUST PRE-REGISTER** for the event at the Tucson Orienteering Club website - follow the "Pre-register!" link to sign up.

Directions

From the North: 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.

From the Southwest: 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.

From the Southeast: 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.

Please see the GPHXO website for more detailed directions.

Wed. March 9 – Mesquite Library

We are working with the Mesquite Branch of the Phoenix Library (on the north side of Paradise Valley Mall) to present an Orienteering Workshop on March 9, 6:30 - 8 pm. Please check the GPHXO website for details.

Paradise Valley Mall is on the northwest corner of Cactus Rd. and Tatum Blvd. Take the Cactus Rd. exit from the 51, and go east about a mile and a half. The Mesquite Library is on the north side of the mall.

Sat. March 12 – Beginners' Training and Short Courses – Adobe Dam

On Saturday March 12th, we plan to present a Beginners' Training event and practice short courses at our new Adobe Dam site. Please check the website before coming to the event, as we are still working on permits and plans for this event!

Schedule

We are still working out the schedule for this event; please check the GPHXO website.

Registration

We are still working out the registration costs for these events; please check the GPHXO website.

Directions

The **Adobe Dam Recreation Area** is a multi-use park located just south of the Pinnacle Peak/43rd Avenue intersection in North Glendale, Arizona. The park is split into a number of separate areas. The Recreation Area is located at the base of the Hedgpeeth Hills in the plain behind Adobe Dam. The park's open areas contain a minimum amount of terrain variation.

Approaching via I-17, from the Pinnacle Peak exit of Interstate 17 in North Phoenix (exit 217), travel west 2.2 miles on Pinnacle Peak Road to the intersection with 43rd Avenue.

Approaching from the West via the Loop 101 take the Loop 101 to the 59th Avenue exit (exit 19). Travel north on 59th Avenue/Pinnacle Peak Road for a total of 3.3 miles. The route on 59th Avenue enters Thunderbird Park after a little more than a mile, then winds to the east and becomes Pinnacle Peak Road.

Please check the GPHXO website for more detailed directions.

Sun. March 13 – Saguaro Lake Score-O

This will be a three-hour Score-O with 25 controls, in the Stewart Mountain area. There will be water at the start/finish and two water stations on the course. There is a three-hour time limit, with penalties for being out longer, and anyone returning after 1:30 pm will be marked "DNF" and will not score any points.

Schedule

Registration starts8:30 am
Course opens9 am
Free Beginners' Clinic9:30 am
Course closes 1:30 pm

Anyone returning after 1:30 pm will be marked DNF

Registration

Individual member / non-member \$5/10
Team member/non-member \$8/15

Directions

There are two routes; the Beeline Hwy (87) is 4 lanes, direct but not very scenic and the Bush Hwy is 2 lanes and winding, but the scenery is great once you get past north Mesa.

For the Beeline (87): from Loop 202 and Country Club (the Beeline), go northeast on the Beeline (past Fountain Hills) 22 miles and turn right at the Saguaro Lake/Bush Hwy turnoff. Our site is 0.2 miles on the right. Look for an orange and white orienteering "sandwich board" at the turnoff to our site.

For the Bush Hwy: From Power road and the Superstition (US60), go northeast 22 miles (Power turns into the Bush Hwy). You'll pass the Usery Pass turnoff in 13.5 miles, but stay on the Bush Hwy. When you see the sign that says "Junction 87 - 1/2 mile", turn left into the big open area about 0.3 miles after the sign. Look for an orange and white orienteering "sandwich board".

Go slow, it's just a short dirt entrance into the area.

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

April 9/10 - new event location

May 7/8 - Prescott

Did you know that GPHXO O.C. members get the “member” rate for Tucson O.C. events? Next Tucson event is February 21-22, Catalina State Park.

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)**

GPHXO General Meeting, 1/9/16

27 Club Members & Officers met at Boulders on Broadway in Tempe on January 9th for a Club General meeting.

Highlights: *(continued in next column)*

Finance: club finances are in good shape. We spent \$1500 last year on new canopies and still have over \$5000 in the bank.

We have rented a different storage unit, more convenient for those who do most of the course setup. The new unit is in the NW valley, near I-17 and 101.

Equipment: two new canopies. Glenn fixed many existing controls and we bought more - now have about 90 controls plus 50 control stands.

We discussed ways to increase the size of the club, and had many good suggestions. We also asked for ideas on how to make the events better and publicize the club. We hope to find more volunteers to help set up courses and retrieve controls afterward.

Jill Kyle has set up a Café Press account so that a variety of club-logo items are now available. Visit www.cafepress.com/greaterphoenixorienteeringclub

We elected officers; Ron Birks, Glenn Haselfeld, Forest Brown and Gary Hickey continue as our elected officers and the other appointed officers have agreed to continue in their positions.

Minor changes were made to the bylaws.

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
Jill Kyle
Forest Brown
Erik Ringnes
Glenn Haselfeld, Ron Birks
Gary Hickey, Erik Ringnes
Derrick Beracy
Charles Wolff
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GPHXO Newsletter Feb 2016

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

(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)*