

Tucson Orienteering Club

June 1994

BEAR WALLOW IN THE CATALINA MOUNTAINS

JUNE 19, 1994

-Marley Beard

It is time to escape our early 100°+ record breakers and get up into the Catalinas with the cooler temperatures. Wilkey Richardson is setting up a Score-O as well as a basic course for beginners. You will have your choice of 60 or 90 minute limits on the Score-O. Participants at all skill levels are sure to have a great time.

Never participated in a Score-O? The object of a Score-O is to choose your own route among a set of controls, finding as many controls as possible in a fixed amount of time. You are not required to follow a specific course. You accumulate points with each control you find—but don't be late checking in at the finish table or you will be penalized for exceeding the time limit.

Be sure to bring your whistles—or you can purchase one for \$1 at the meet. Each participant will be required to carry a whistle because of limited visibility in the forest area. Also bring water. There will be some water out on the course but because of the heat and consumption rate it brings—please bring an adequate supply of water.

Beginners' clinics will be available at 9 a.m. and at 9:20 a.m. Come early, learn, and enjoy the mountain and the courses.

Volunteers are always welcome! Currently, the registration and start/finish tables are staffed, but we need more help with control retrieval at the end of the day. To volunteer, please call Marley Beard at 297-0180 (days) or 742-6134 (eves). (Continued on Page 2, "Bear Wallow Details.")

Important Business/Planning Meeting June 20.
All members welcome.
See May 15 meeting report for further information.

BEAR WALLOW DETAILS (Continued from Page 1):

Cost: \$5 for individuals, \$7 for teams, \$2 off for TOC or SAHC members. Compass rental \$1. Safety whistles (required for each participant) can be purchased for \$1.

Camping: This is a National Forest and there are several camping grounds if you care to escape the Tucson heat a day earlier.

Directions to Site: Drive up Mt. Lemmon on the Catalina Highway to the Mt. Bigelow turn-off; take the Mt. Bigelow turn-off and follow the orange and white orienteering signs from there. It is about a 60-minute drive from central Tucson.

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Registration opens.

9:30 a.m. Courses open

Beginners' clinic starts.

12:00 p.m. Last time to start a course.

9:20 a.m. Clinic repeated upon request.

2:00 p.m. Courses close; control

retrieval begins.

Everyone, finished or not, must check out at the finish table before leaving.

SLAVIN GULCH, THE EUROPEAN WAY--RESULTS

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 1994

-Martin Lebl

The May meet was held in the Dragoons, one of the nicest places the Club uses. The weekend of the meet welcomed everyone with nice weather, cooler than in Tucson. (Of course those who started around noon had to sweat anyway.) I would also like to correct one mistake in the announcement, that said: "It takes about 90 minutes from Tucson." The actual time is around two hours, depending on speed, especially on the final dirt road. Since this was my first time as meet director, I was surprised how smoothly everything went. (Except for the stolen control. More about this and other questions in course setter's remarks.) Mary English's preparation of material for the meet was very helpful to me. Meet turnout was pretty good for a course this far from Tucson, and we would like to extend our thanks to everyone that took part in this event. Michal had been a first time course setter, and he really wanted to have challenging courses (and he had), and so the intermediate course was more like short advanced. More than half of the competitors on this course did not finish, but in many cases the heat or time constraint terminated their run. (They found all controls up to the point when they decided to abort their run.) The Super Advanced course with missing control was very popular, since it muscled even more competitors than Advanced. (By margin of one.) And eight out of ten competitors actually finished the course with time ranging from 1:48 to 4:07 hours. Almost all of these competitors liked the option to skip some controls on this course in exchange for fifteen minute penalty. Extraordinary feat was also performed by Alexander Savine, who is running orienteering without the compass.

I would like to thank Mark Parsons for trying and checking out the basic course, prior to competition, so that we knew it was runnable by most people in this category. Another thanks goes to Peg Davis who did the beginners' clinics for us. And I would also like to thank Roy Parker. John Maier, and course setters for retrieving the controls.

In case there is a + sign in the time column it is accrued penalty, that was available in Super Advanced and in Line. Times that are in parentheses show times of competitors who aborted their run, because the control was stolen, and these times are their times up to that point. If recreational entries finished ahead of competitors, they are included in the list with their achieved time, and mark that they were recreational entries. The start/finish table was operated by Michal and George.

Course Setters Remarks:

Well, the response to our course was mixed. The best illustration of this point was the remark on the feedback sheet: What did you like about the course? That it was challenging. What didn't you like? That it was challenging. Yes, we made it challenging. Probably too much for the intermediate course, this should have been short advanced. However, we were pleased to hear even from the people who didn't finish, that they had to be more careful in reading the map and locate themselves absolutely precisely, and, most importantly, that they understood it as a good lesson in navigation. One description of a situation which repeatedly happened to one team was: "We checked everything around and concluded that the control must be right here. Then we looked carefully, and ... it was right here." We had a chance to look at the maps which people have drawn—yes, we would not be able to find the controls based on some of these drawings. There were circles off by more than 3mm, which means almost 50 m, and in the situations of "not forgiving" control placements, this asks for trouble. One remark about "..numerous reentrant inside the control circle..." should be commented. Yes, it happened more than once, but the circle describes the middle of the circle, which should have been pinpointed. There was always something absolutely unmistakably locatable closer than 150 m away from the marked point on the map (attack point), such as: wash junction and wash band close to #2 (A,AA), wash junction #5 (A,AA), fence corner #6 (A,AA), wash, fence and road #7 (A), #8 (AA), wash junction and road/wash junction #8 (A), #9 (AA), wash junction #1 (I), wash and hill top #4 (I), fence/wash junction #8 (I).

We were surprised that so many people went for AA course with one control (intentionally) missing, and we were pleased that most of them found everything. It was actually a big relief when Roy Parker came back saying that everything was OK. Unbelievably fast John Maier was penalized by 15 minutes for missing #2. Reason for his (but not only his) miss was, however, that there is not a different IOF symbol for wash and dry ditch—we used only symbols for AA course. The mysterious disappearance of #10(I)/#12(A)/#13(AA) at 12:30 was very disappointing. Therefore everybody who didn't find this control after this time is not disqualified and/or penalized for not punching it. Those who had chosen the "Line" or "String-O" as Dan calls it, deserve their ribbon; the youngest participant was 5 years old. Our thanks go to Mark

Parsons, who has pointed the start into this area, showed us how to set the course (but not at Slavin Gulch, all blame here goes to our heads), and all of you who were patient enough with the greenhorn course setters. Next time, if you will let us do it again, we will make the intermediate course easier. We promise.

Slavin Gulch 5/15/94 Results

AA	(Super Advanced, O	ne control missing,	inte	mediate (Continued)	1
8.0	km)		1W	Rachel Gelbin	(2:25:00)
1M	Roy Parker	1:48:05	2W	Elizabeth Bernstein	(3:14:14)
2M	John Maier	1:37:30 + 0:15:00	4T	The Cranes	(3:20:46)
3M	Roger Sperline	2:08:38 + 0:15:00	5T	Gifted Amateurs	(3:21:40)
4M	John Andrews	2:24:10	M	Terry Shumaker	DNF
5M	Alexander Savine	2:36:42	W	Christine	DNF
6M	Michael Collins	2:46:43 + 0:15:00	W	Ann Haber	DNF
7M	Wilkey Richardson	3:06:35 + 0:15:00	W	Carol Brown	DNF
1T	Hovnival	4:07:00	W	Sue Roberts	DNF
М	John Little	DNF	М	Robert L. Kelley	DNF
М	Dan Cobbledick	DNF	М	John Jamieson	DNF
			W	Lisa Werner	DNF
A (Advanced, no hassle	, 7.9 km)	T	Broncos	DNF
1M	Mark Parsons	1:46:20	T	Bears	DNF
2M	Max Suter	2:08:29	T	Big Dogs	Recreational
3M	Craig Culesa	2:18:55	M	Kent Jacobs	Recreational
4M	Cliff Hathaway	3:13:30			
W	Peg Davis	DNF	B (Basic, 2.0 km)	
M	Gregg Townsend	DNF	1M	John Jamieson	0:48:47Recr.
M	David Lydall	DNF	2M	John Beard	0:49:34Recr.
T	Colts	DNF	1T	The Evil Mendu	0:55:36
Т	Nightsinger/Bodkin	DNF	2T	Greg's	0:57:20Recr.
			3T	Bullets	1:07:40
i (in	termediate, tough, 4.	5 km)	T	Bisbee Rockies	DNF
1M	Jim Deveny	2:20:35			
2M	Doug Mais	2:21:56	L (I	ine, string-O, 1.4 km)
3M	Larry Lamb	2:35:19	1T	Team X	0:28:59
1T	Huckabyrd	2:45:20	1W	Aurora Andrews	0:23:27 + 0:10:00
2T	Chambers	2:56:19	1M	Christopher Suter	0:30:11 + 0:10:00
3T	Prego Hell	2:56:40		-	

TRAINING FOR COURSE SETTING

---John Little

Do you want to learn how to set orienteering courses? There's something in it both for you and for the club. The club needs more experienced course setters, as usual. The benefits for you include preventing burnout of the other setters, so that we will continue having meets; learning something new, interesting, and challenging; and, best of all, learning a set of skills which really improve your own orienteering, partly by allowing you to see and study a course at your leisure with a full brainload of oxygen.

Later in the summer and early fall, I will teach a class in course-setting (sometimes opaquely known as a course-setting course). I have done this twice in the past; perhaps you should ask others about my credentials, but I have set a number of club meets, more in the late 1980's than recently, including the 1990 State Champs and the 1993 Rogaine, so I'm experienced at least. Both times, there were about 6-8 people in the group—a good size because it allows a lot of interaction.

I'd like to organize this into several parts:

- an "armchair" part, in which we discuss basic principles of course setting, probably at my house. I'll talk about the elements of good course setting, how hard to make it, and some things to avoid.
- a "homework" part, where we look over some old courses for their good and bad points, and then design course legs and simple courses, all in the privacy of our own homes, then get together to compare the results.
- a field exercise (you can call it a "final exam" part if you want), in which we design courses for a meet on paper then go out into the field to compare our vision with harsh reality, and refine the courses into a usable final product. It's always my experience that, even if a course looks great on paper, at least a third of the points need to be changed, due to some problem with the map or the terrain. I have volunteered to set the September 18 meet at Rosemont Canyon and I'd like to have the class as a whole be involved in doing this. Rosemont is a nice area—not too many shindaggers and interesting, varied terrain—it's where I set the 1990 Champs so I'm familiar with it.

I won't be able to start in on this seriously until mid-August. This should give us enough time to plan a course by September 18. However, I'm willing to be flexible as to when we start, depending on other peoples' schedules. I've written an outline of my ideas about course-setting that we've used before, and I can get copies of it to interested people so they can study it before we meet. Give me a call at 327-8973 (home), 621-5629 (office), or 621-5081 (lab) if you're interested.

EDITOR'S NOTE TO MEET DIRECTORS AND OTHER NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:

Please send your news articles to the newsletter editor by the Bulletin Deadline, as shown in the monthly calendars. Mail directly to Lois Kimminau, 9055 Calle Bogota, Tucson 85715, or FAX to 290-8071, but before sending call 296-2108 to make sure the FAX is turned on.

MAY 15 BUSINESS MEETING REPORT

- Checked final details for June meet.
- Discussed plans for two-day meet in July at Palisades. Max Suter is designing a series of self-guided training exercises for Saturday, as well as the formal courses for Sunday.
- Tossed around notions about future availability, over the long-term, of some Coronado National Forest sites for club meets. Heavy-impact use of certain highly popular sites may trigger new regulations that could impinge on low-impact uses, including orienteering.
 - Agreed, tentatively, we may skip July business meeting.

Next Business Meeting: Monday, June 20, 7 p.m., potluck supper 6:30; at Peg Davis's, 2241 E. Parkway Terrace, 628-8985. (From Broadway Boulevard, go south 0.3 mile on Tucson Boulevard; turn right on Arroyo Chico (before crossing arroyo itself); continue 0.2 mile to white house on circle.)

Agenda: Proposal from John Maier and Mark Parsons for TOC to organize A-level meet, perhaps in 1996(?), with description of official rules for such meets. Also, further details from Mark Parsons on his 1995 ROGAINE proposal.

** TUCSON ORIENTEERING CLUB CALENDAR

Meet: Bear Wallow, Catalina Mountains June 19 See details in this issue. Business/Planning Meeting, 6:30/7 p.m. All members welcome. June 20 See 5/15 Meeting Report in this issue. June 27 July bulletin deadline. Notice the earlier-than-usual date this month! Colorado Five-Day Meet, U.S. Spring Championships, Crystal Relays June 27-Info, entry forms: Peg Davis, 628-8985 July 3 Meet: Palisades, in Catalina Mountains July 16-17 Courses: Max Suter; Meet Director: Kyoko Suter Showers Point group campsite limited to 25 persons. Call Al Byrd, 792-0267. to make reservations. August newsletter deadline. July 29 August 13-14 Arizona State Championship Meet: Lower Lake Mary, near Flagstaff (Organized jointly by PHXO and TOC) Meet: Rosemont Junction, Santa Rita Mountains Sept. 18 Courses; John Little; Meet Director: Meet: Whetstones Oct. 16 Courses: John Maier: Meet Director: Meet: New site in Tucson Mountains?? Nov. 20 Meet: Catalina State Park Dec. 18 No fooling! Arizona ROGAINE, site near Parker Canyon Lake April 1, 1995 (tentative) Courses: Mark Parsons; Meet Director:

TRAINING TIPS: THUMBING

—Tom Strat, BAOC Bulletin

Immediately after receiving your map, you should orient it with the terrain, and keep it that way during the whole competition. Hold the map so that the direction in which you're running is at the top of the map, with the magnetic north lines always pointing north. Then, when you look down on the map, you will notice your route going directly away from you.

Mark your position on the map with your thumb, and keep your thumb on that position while running. Advance your thumb over the map as you advance along your route. To do this, you will need to refold your map repeatedly as you progress around the course. Now, whenever you want to check the map for details, all you have to do is check the area under your thumb, rather than searching the map for your position.

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Address Correction Requested

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MEMBERSHIP FORM Check one: New Member Renewal Date on Mailing Label Name: Telephone: Address: Check One: Individual (\$8) Family (\$11) Members receive a monthly newsletter, have voting privileges, and receive a \$2 discount per meet. Make checks payable to: Tucson Orienteering Club, and send to P. O. Box 13012, Tucson, AZ 85732.