

Tucson Orienteering Club



Newsletter Submittals
The deadline for newsletter items is shown in the monthly calendar. Please try to meet the deadline, or call the editor if there is a problem. All members are invited and encouraged to send informational or opinion articles on any orienteering topic.
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Tucson, AZ 85715
—Lois Kimminau

December 2002

Winter Solstice in the Sonoran Desert

—Ludwig Hill

Come join us on the lower slopes of the Tucson Mountains on December 15, 2002, when the Tucson Orienteering Club holds its meet at Cat Mountain in Tucson Mountain Park. Elevations range from 2600 to 2850 feet above sea level, where sandy washes, mesquite bosques, grassy cienegas, eroded granite landforms and basaltic rock outcrops await you.

White, Yellow, Orange, Green and Red Courses will be set. The Start and Finish, as well as Registration for these courses, is located half a mile from the parking area and takes about a 10-minute warm-up walk to reach. So plan to arrive a little early to give yourself time for getting to the Registration/Timing area. The Meet Director will need kind souls to help carry a backpack or other club equipment to the Start area in the morning, so arrive a little early to help out if you can.

Pat Penn will be directing this event. If you would like to volunteer to help out with timing, registration, or equipment toting (you will still be able to run a course), please call Pat at 326-2339.

Directions: From Tucson, take Ajo Way (AZ 86) west to Kinney Road (4 miles west of Mission Road). Turn right at Kinney and go northwest 0.9 miles to Sarasota Boulevard. Turn right at Sarasota and go northeast 0.4 miles to a dirt road branching to the right. Turn right on the dirt road and continue east 0.5 miles to the unmarked parking area. To reach the registration area, walk through the metal gate in the wire fence and follow the foot/bike trail east 0.5 miles to the site. [Remember, if you arrive early, the Meet Director will be in your eternal debt if you offer to help carry something to the start area.]

Fees: \$5/individual, \$8/team for members of any recognized orienteering club. \$10/individual, \$15/team for nonmembers. Compasses rent for \$1. Safety whistles sell for \$1. Every person, all courses, all meets is required to carry some type of safety whistle.

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Registration opens. Beginners' clinic starts.

9:30 a.m. Courses open.

11:30 a.m. Last time to start a course.

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.: Route choice reviews.

1:00 pm: Courses close. Begin control retrieval—good orienteering practice, lots of help always needed.

Volunteer before 1 p.m. with the meet director, Pat Penn.

Check-In: To insure that all are safe, everyone, whether finished with the course or not, must check in formally at Start/Finish before leaving the meet site.

Newcomers: Go directly to Registration. Ask for instructions and introductory information. To attend the beginners' clinic, arrive between 8:45 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Route Choice Reviews: Between 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm an advanced orienteer will be available to discuss route choices with returning participants near the Start/Finish area.

Tucson Orienteers Explore The Laguna Mountains of Southern California

—Ludwig Hill

Perhaps Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, in some respects a widely acclaimed orienteer himself, some 300 years ago spied these mountains in the distance and set in his mind the idea (heretical in his day) that California was connected to the mainland and therefore was not an oceanic island as the English explorers and other contemporaries had claimed. Of course, had Kino been wrong in that idea, it would have been quite difficult for Peg Davis, Jeff Brodsky, Ludwig Hill, and two TOC members from Las Vegas, Carl and Linda Moore, to make it by car to the 2-Day Pacific Region Ranking Series event at Mount Laguna on October 5 and 6. It is only fitting that those of us from the land of la Pimeria Alta would make a good showing at this San Diego Orienteering Club (SDOC) sponsored event.

During two rotations beneath the sun, the deep-blue sky smiled down through the friendly pines and the gargantuan old oak trees with their bright, early-fall colors. The crisp, light air at 6000 feet elevation enhanced the feeling of exuberance felt by both novice and experienced orienteers as we raced or savored our way through rolling hills and rock-studded drainages. Along many course legs, both sprinters and meanderers, depending on our orienteering temperament, experienced the invigorating feeling of gliding through expansive vistas of golden mountain meadows. However all of us quickly learned not to even try cutting through the energy-draining, mind-numbing *dark green?* areas on the map, representing dense and gnarly stands of manzanita and chaparral.

Linda and Carl both vaporized the Brown Course on both days (4.0 km, 110 m climb / 3.3 km, 95 m climb), bagging first and first in their respective veterans' divisions. Peg pegged the Green Course on both days (5.3 km, 230 m climb / 5.0 km, 195 m climb) with third place in the women's division. She also racked up a wildlife bonus for sighting a bobcat on the course. Jeff and Ludwig gave the winners in their division a run for their money as individual challengers scorching the Red Course on both days (6.4 km, 250 m climb / 7.0 km, 230 m climb).

We give special thanks to SDOC fellow orienteers Donna and Edwin Gookin, Bill Gookin, and Rich Parker for setting and directing this fun-filled 310-entry orienteering crowd-pleaser.

[For information about upcoming west coast events, see back page for internet addresses.]

Tucson Orienteering Club
P. O. Box 13012
Tucson, AZ 85732

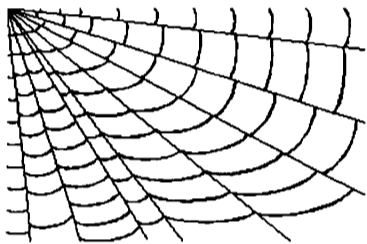
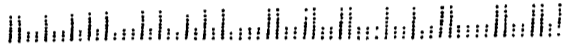
Address Service Requested



Come celebrate early.
Cat Mountain on
December 15.



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Check out the Tucson Orienteering Club web site!
<http://go.to/tucsonorienteering>
Also, for links to all the West Coast club sites, go to
<http://go.to/sconet>
For information on Pacific Region rankings,
<http://go.to/pacreg>

Results from November Arizona State Champs meet at Cave Creek will be in the January newsletter. Please send articles intended for the January newsletter to the editor early, if possible, due to the holidays.

Upcoming meets: January 19 at Silverbell—Wilkey Richardson, Course Setter; February 16 at Slavin Gulch—Mark Parson, Course Setter. Meet directors are needed for both of these meets. Please volunteer to help.

TSN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one: New Member Renewal Date on label _____

Check one: Individual (\$10) Household (\$15)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Can you help staff a club meet? Yes, call me. E-mail: _____

Members receive a monthly newsletter, have voting privileges and access to Club library, and receive a discount on meet fees. Make checks payable to Tucson Orienteering Club, and send to P.O. Box 13012, Tucson, AZ 85732.