#### Orienteering

Presented by Chris Houlberg Scoutmaster Troop 119

## What is Orienteering

- Orienteering is a Sport
  - Walk in the Woods
  - Competitive event
  - Participants use an Accurate Detailed Map and Description to find Points in a Landscape
- Orienteering is a Merit Badge
  - Requirements Revised January 1, 2004
  - Know Basic First Aid
  - Know how to use Map and Compass
  - Participate in and Teach Orienteering

# **Orienteering Course**

- Consists of a Start, Series of Control Sites and a Finish
- Control Sites
  - On a Map they are Marked by Circles, Connected by Lines and Numbered in the Order in which they are to be Visited
  - On the Ground they are Marked by Flags
- Control Site Visits are Verified
  - Punch hanging next to the Control Flag
  - Participants must Punch their Control Card
- Route between Controls is not Specified
- Several Course Levels are usually Available at a Meet

# **Orienteering Map & Description**

- Most Orienteering Maps (based on topographic)
  - 5 Color
  - 5 Meter Contour Lines
  - Scale of 1:15,000 (1 cm => 150 m)
  - A Series of North Lines (magnetic) for Reference
- Course Levels Range from Beginner (White) to Expert (Blue)
- WHITE 3.5 km 75 m climb Start: Corner of the field 1 BL trail junction 2 JC stream junction 3 PG SW corner of the evergreens 4 MP SW end of the knoll 5 BL upper part of the reentrant Finish: NE corner of the building (350 m)



#### **Topographic Map Symbols**

#### BATHYMETRIC FEATURES

Area exposed at mean low tide; sounding datum line***	
Channel***	
Sunken rock***	+
BUILDINGS AND RELATED FEATURES	
Building	
School; house of worship	r 1
Athletic field	$\bigcirc \bigcirc$
Built-up area	
Forest headquarters*	
Ranger district office*	<u>≜</u>
Guard station or work center*	<b>b</b>
Racetrack or raceway	$\bigcirc \bigcirc$
Airport, paved landing strip, runway, taxiway, or apron	
Unpaved landing strip	[]
Well (other than water), windmill or wind ge	enerator ∘∘ ≆
Tanks	••••
Covered reservoir	0 7777
Gaging station	9
Located or landmark object (feature as labe	eled) o
Boat ramp or boat access*	•
Roadside park or rest area	π
Picnic area	*
Campground	X 🔊
Winter recreation area*	*
Cemetery	□ [] [] [Cem] [†]

#### COASTAL FEATURES

	Foreshore flat		Mud
	Coral or rock reef	C) Statement	Reef
	Rock, bare or awash; dangerous to navigation		*
	Group of rocks, bare or awash	(	* * * * *
	Exposed wreck		* *
	Depth curve; sounding		
	Breakwater, pier, jetty, or wharf		ſ'n
	Seawall	·	
	Oil or gas well; platform		•
B	DUNDARIES		
	National		
	State or territorial		
	County or equivalent		
	Civil township or equivalent		
	Incorporated city or equivalent		
	Federally administered park, reservation, or monument (external)		
	Federally administered park, reservation, or monument (internal)		
	State forest, park, reservation, or monument and large county park		
	Forest Service administrative area*		
	Forest Service ranger district*		
	National Forest System land status, Forest Service lands*		
	National Forest System land status, non-Forest Service lands*		
	Small park (county or city)		

#### CONTOURS Topographic Index Approximate or indefinite Intermediate Approximate or indefinite Supplementary Depression Cut Fill Continental divide Bathymetric Index\*\*\* Intermediate\*\*\* Index primary\*\*\* Primary\*\*\* Supplementary\*\*\* CONTROL DATA AND MONUMENTS ⊕ 3-20 Principal point\*\* U.S. mineral or location monument USMM 438 + Mile River mileage marker 69 Boundary monument вм <sub>в 9134</sub> ВМ + 277 Third-order or better elevation, with tablet Third-order or better elevation. <sup>D</sup> 5628 recoverable mark, no tablet 67 🗆 4567 With number and elevation Horizontal control Third-order or better, permanent mark ∆ Neace 🛧 Neace <sup>BM</sup>∆ 52 With third-order or better elevation -4 BM393 With checked spot elevation △ 1012

Coincident with found section corner

Unmonumented\*\*

Cactus

Cactus

### Topographic Map Symbols (Cont.)

# CONTROL DATA AND MONUMENTS – continued Vertical control Third-order or better elevation, with tablet BM × 5280 Third-order or better elevation, recoverable mark, no tablet × 528 Bench mark coincident with found section corner BM + 5280 Spot elevation × 7523

#### GLACIERS AND PERMANENT SNOWFIELDS

Contours and limits		
Formlines		GHHD
Glacial advance		
Glacial retreat		
RIVERS, LAKES, AND CANALS		
Perennial stream	$\sim$	$\sim$
Perennial river		$\sim$
Intermittent stream		
	10110110	
Intermittent river		
Disappearing stream		
Falls, small		
Falls, large		
Rapids, small		
Rapids, large		MA
	$\backslash$	$\searrow$
Masonry dam		
Dam with lock		
Dam carrying road	$\sum$	

LAND SURVEYS		
Public land survey system		
Range or Township line		
Location approximate		
Location doubtful		
Protracted		
Protracted (AK 1:63,360-scale)		
Range or Township labels	R1E T2N	R3W T4S
Section line		
Location approximate		
Location doubtful		
Protracted		
Protracted (AK 1:63,360-scale)		
Section numbers	1 - 36	1 - 36
Found section corner		-+
Found closing corner	-	
Witness corner	-	WC
Meander corner	-	- MC
Weak corner*	-	_+
Other land surveys		
Range or Township line		
Section line		
Land grant, mining claim, donation land claim, or tract		
Land grant, homestead, mineral, or other special survey monument		
Fence or field lines		
MINES AND CAVES		
Quarry or open pit mine		*
Gravel, sand, clay, or borrow pit		×
Mine tunnel or cave entrance		
Mine chaft		
Prospect		
FIUSPECL	13/14/24	×
Tailings		Tailings
Mine dump		
Former disposal site or mine		

#### PROJECTION AND GRIDS

Neatline	39°15′ 90°37′30″
Graticule tick	— 55'
Graticule intersection	
Datum shift tick	-+-
State plane coordinate systems	
Primary zone tick	640 000 FEET
Secondary zone tick	247 500 METERS
Tertiary zone tick	260 000 FEET
Quaternary zone tick	98 500 METERS
Quintary zone tick	320 000 FEET
Universal transverse metcator grid	
UTM grid (full grid)	273
UTM grid ticks*	269
RAILROADS AND RELATED FEATURES	
Standard guage railroad, single track	+++
Standard guage railroad, multiple track	++
Narrow guage railroad, single track	
Narrow guage railroad, multiple track	<del></del>
Railroad siding	╺╧╧╧╧╧┺╌╧┺╌
Railroad in highway	++-+
Railroad in road Railroad in light duty road*	+
	<u> </u>
Railroad underpass; overpass	+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
Railroad bridge; drawbridge	+ )
Railroad tunnel	++
Railroad yard	
Railroad turntable; roundhouse	
MARINE SHORELINES	
Shoreline	$\sim$
Apparent (edge of vegetation)***	$\sim$
Indefinite or unsurveyed	

## Topographic Map Symbols (Cont.)

#### RIVERS, LAKES, AND CANALS - continued

Perennial lake/pond	$\bigcirc\bigcirc$
Intermittent lake/pond	$\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc$
Dry lake/pond	
Narrow wash	
Wide wash	- Wash
Canal, flume, or aqueduct with lock	— · — · — ·
Elevated aqueduct, flume, or conduit	$\rightarrow \cdots \leftarrow \rightarrow \cdots \leftarrow$
Aqueduct tunnel	→===≠-→====≠-
Water well, geyser, fumarole, or mud po	ot oo
Spring or seep	• १

#### SUBMERGED AREAS AND BOGS

Marsh or swamp	<u>لىب مىلەر مىلەر</u> مىلەر مىلەر مىلەر مىلەر مىلەر
Submerged marsh or swamp	
Wooded marsh or swamp	
Submerged wooded marsh or swamp	

Max Pool 431

Land subject to inundation

#### **ROADS AND RELATED FEATURES**

Please note: Roads on Provisional-edition maps are not classified as primary, secondary, or light duty. These roads are all classified as improved roads and are symbolized the same as light duty roads.

Primary highway		
Secondary highway		
Light duty road		
Light duty road, paved*		
Light duty road, gravel*		
Light duty road, dirt*		
Light duty road, unspecified*		
Unimproved road		
Unimproved road*	======	
4WD road		
4WD road*	======	
Irail		
Highway or road with median strip		
Highway or road under construction		<u>Under</u> Const
Highway or road underpass; overpass	-	╢┿
Highway or road bridge; drawbridge		
Highway or road tunnel	<del></del> =	
Road block, berm, or barrier*		
Gate on road*		
Trailhead*		L)

#### SURFACE FEATURES

Levee	Levee
Sand or mud	(Sand)
Disturbed surface	
Gravel beach or glacial moraine	Grovel)
Tailings pond	Toilings Pond
RANSMISSION LINES AND PIPELINES	
Power transmission line; pole; tower	
Telephone line	——— Telephone
Aboveground pipeline	
Underground pipeline	Pipeline
EGETATION	
Woodland	
Shrubland	
Orchard	
Vineyard	
Mangrove	Mangrove)

### International Orienteering Federation Control Description Sheet Example

	IOF Event Example						
		M4{	5, M	50, <b>\</b>	N21		
	5		7.6 km			210	) m
⊳				/	Χ		
1	101					$\leq$	
2	212	7			1.0	Ò	
3	135		≫	≫		ŀ	
4	246	H	٥			0	
5	164	↑				Q	
○ 120>							
6	185		$\mathbf{\mathbf{x}}$	2		٦.	
7	178		⊥			Q	
8	147	+	m		2.0		
9	149		1	/	Х		
O 250>©							

Control Descriptions for IOF Event Example				
Classes M45, M50, W21				
Course number 5. Length 7.6 km. Height climb 210 m.				
Start Road, wall junction				
1 101 Narrow marsh bend				
2 212 North western boulder, 1m high, east side				
3 135 Between thickets				
4 246 Middle depression, east part				
5 164 Eastern ruin, west side				
Follow taped route 120m away from control				
6 185 Stone wall, ruined, south east corner (outside)				
7 178 Spur, north west foot				
8 147 Upper cliff, 2m high				
9 149 Path crossing				
Follow taped route 250m from last control to finish				

# Control Description Sheet Explanation

- Column 1: Control Number Listed in Sequence
- Column 2: Control Code
  - Number Greater than 30
  - Used to Reference a Control Site
- Column 3: Which Feature among Similar Features
- Column 4: Control Feature
- Column 5: Appearance (further explanation of feature)
- Column 6: Dimensions/Combinations
- Column 7: Location of the Control Flag
- Column 8: Other Important Information

# **Orienteering Control Symbols**

Land Forms

び	Terrace	$\bigcirc$	Hill
	Spur	•	Knoll
″^	Re-entrant	)(	Saddle
50		$\Theta$	Depression
#	Earth bank	()	Small depression
63	Quarry	$\widetilde{}$	
+++++	Earth wall	V	Pit
Λ	Erosion gully	υU	Broken ground
-iii),	Small erosion gully	*	Ant hill (termite mound)

Rock and Boulders

пп	Cliff, rock face
	Rock pillar
¥	Cave
	Boulder
	Boulder field
	Boulder
	Stony ground
尜	Bare rock
][	Narrow passage

# **Orienteering Control Symbols**

Water and Marsh



Lake Pond

Water hole

River, stream, watercourse

Minor water channel, ditch

Narrow march

Marsh

Firm ground in marsh

#### Well

Spring

Water tank, water trough

Vegetation



Open land

Semi-open land

Forest corner

Clearing

Thicket

Linear thicket

- Vegetation boundary
- Copse

Distinctive tree

Tree stump, root stock

# **Orienteering Control Symbols**

Man Made





Building Paved areas Ruin Pipeline Tower Shooting platform Boundary stone, cairn Fodder rack Charcoal burning ground Monument or statue Building pass through Stairway

#### • Special Features



Special item - an explanation will be supplied to competitors in the pre-race information

#### **Control Card**



#### Sample Topographic Map



# Sample Topographic Map Enlarged

Falls

2400

Matilija Campsite × 2889

600

× 2670

Upper

Canyon

3583

2728×

# Orienteering for Advancement Second and First Class Ranks

- Buddy System
- Basic First Aid
  - Cuts, Scratches and Blisters
  - Snake, Insect and Tick Bites
  - Poisonous Plants and Animals
  - Dehydration, Sun Burn, Hypo and Hyperthermia
- How to use a Map
- How to use a Compass

# Orienteering for Advancement Second Class Rank

- Demonstrate how to use a Map and Compass
  - Orient a Map
  - Explain what the Map Symbols Mean
- Take a 5-mile Map and Compass Hike
  - Use existing Map and Compass to Determine your Location at several Points along your Route or
  - Make your own Map showing your Route
    - Show Significant Features
    - Show Compass Rose
    - Identify the Map Symbols you used

# Orienteering for Advancement First Class Rank

- Using a Compass Complete an Orienteering Course of at least 1-mile
  - Measure the Height of a Tree and/or Tower
  - Measure the Width of a Ditch and/or River
- How to Find you Way Without a Compass
  - In the Day using the Sun
    - Watch Method
    - Stick and Shadow or Equal Length Shadow Methods
    - Sun Compass
  - At Night using the Constellations or the Moon

#### **Orienteering Merit Badge**

- Show that you know first aid for the types of injuries that could occur while orienteering, including cuts, scratches, blisters, snakebite, insect stings, tick bites, heat and cold reactions (sunburn, heatstroke, heat exhaustion, hypothermia), and dehydration. Explain to your counselor why you should be able to identify poisonous plants and poisonous animals that are found in your area.
- Explain what orienteering is.
- Do the following:
  - Explain how a compass works. Describe the features of an orienteering compass.
  - In the field, show how to take a compass bearing and follow it.
- Do the following:
  - Explain how a topographic map shows terrain features. Point out and name five terrain features on a map and in the field.
  - Point out and name 10 symbols on a topographic map.
  - Explain the meaning of *declination*. Tell why you must consider declination when using map and compass together.
  - Show a topographic map with magnetic north-south lines.
  - Show how to measure distances using an orienteering compass.
  - Show how to orient a map using a compass.
- Set up a 100-meter pace course. Determine your walking and running pace for 100 meters. Tell why it is important to pace-count.
- Do the following:
  - Identify 20 international control description symbols. Tell the meaning of each symbol.
  - Show a control description sheet and explain the information provided.
  - Explain the following terms and tell when you would use them: attack point, collecting feature, aiming off, contouring, reading ahead, handrail, relocation, rough versus fine orienteering.
- Do the following:
  - Take part in three orienteering events. One of these must be a cross-country course.
  - After each event, write a report with
    - a copy of the master map and control description sheet ,
    - a copy of the route you took on the course,
    - a discussion of how you could improve your time between control points, and
    - a list of your major weaknesses on this course . Describe what you could do to improve.
- Do ONE of the following:
  - Set up a cross-country course of at least 2,000 meters long with at least five control markers. Prepare the master map and control description sheet.
  - Set up a score-orienteering course with 12 control points and a time limit of at least 60 minutes. Prepare the master map and control description sheet.
- Act as an official during an orienteering even. This may be during the running of the course you set up for requirement 8.
- Teach orienteering techniques to your patrol, troop or crew.

### How to Use a Map

- Use a Current Map (things change)
- Look for the Key
- Identify Map Symbols (landmarks)
- Check the Scale
- Identify North
  - Find Compass Rose (north arrow)
  - Locate Latitude and Longitude Lines
  - Identify Declination
    - Difference between True North and Magnetic North
    - Needed to Properly Orient the Map
    - When labeled usually found along the Bottom of the Map
- Some Maps use other Coordinate Systems

#### **Declination Changes with Time**

1590



Model by A. Jackson, A. R. T. Jonkers, M. R. Wolker, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. London A (2000), 358, 957-990.

### What are Latitude and Longitude

- Astronomic Latitude ( $\lambda_a$ ): The angle a normal to the geoid makes to the celestial equatorial plane.
- Astronomic Longitude ( $\phi_a$ ): The angle the projection of a normal to the geoid on the equatorial plane makes to the Greenwich meridian.
- Other Definitions:
  - Terrestrial: Relative to Center of Earth Geoid
  - Geocentric: Relative to Center of Standard Ellipsoid
  - Geodetic: Relative to Normal of Standard Ellipsoid

#### Latitude and Longitude



#### Problem with Latitude and Longitude



#### **Mercator Projections**



**Mercator Projection** 

**Transverse Mercator Projection** 

#### Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM)



# Universal Transverse Mercator Description

- An artificial grid system dividing the globe longitudinally into strips 6 degrees wide and divided latitudinally mostly 8 degrees tall.
- The grids are numbered in an easterly direction from 1 to 60 starting at -180 degrees longitude.
- The grids are lettered (not always used) in a northerly direction from A to Z starting at the South Pole (I and O are omitted).
  - South of 80 degrees south it is divided into two zones A and B
  - From 80 degrees south to 72 degrees north into 19 zones C through W
  - From 72 degrees north to 84 degrees north zone X
  - North of 84 degrees north it is divided into two zones Y and Z
- Each zone is further divided decimally
  - From the Central Meridian with a 500 kilometer (km) false easting to ensure a positive number.
  - When lettered latitudinal zones are not used the zone is numbered from the Equator (0 km) or to the Equator (10,000 km) in a northerly direction.
- The Polar Stereographic projection is usually used in the polar regions.

### Reading a Map in UTM

Easting is always a 6 digit coordinate Northing is always a 7 digit coordinate



#### How to Use a Compass to Take a Bearing

- Point Compass in Direction of Travel
- Hold Away from Belt Buckle or other Metal
- Adjust Orienting Arrow to Match Compass Needle
- Account for Declination
- Read Bearing from Compass Housing where Direction of Travel Arrow meets Compass Housing



#### How to Use a Compass to Orient a Map

- Place Map on Flat Surface
  - Avoid Surfaces with Metal (school lunch tables)
  - Use the Ground
- Avoid Places with Artificial Magnetic Fields
  - High Voltage Power Systems
  - Railroad Tracks
- Place Compass on Map so Direction of Travel Arrow Lines Up with Compass Rose North or Longitude Line
- Adjust Compass Housing so Orienting Arrow Lines up with Direction of Travel Arrow
- Adjust Compass Housing to Account for Magnetic Declination
- Rotate Map until Orienting Arrow Matches Compass Needle

# How to Use a Compass to Take a Bearing from a Map





- Place Compass on an Oriented Map so Direction of Travel Arrow Lines Up with Line Connecting Start and End Points
- Adjust Compass Housing so Orienting Lines Line Up with Meridian Lines
- Read Bearing from Compass Housing where Direction of Travel Arrow meets Compass Housing

### Traveling to a Location on a Map

- There will Always be some Error in Map Readings
- Rule of Thumb: Uncertainty is 1/10 of Distance Traveled
- Intentionally Travel to the Left or Right of the Final Destination



- Sight on then Travel toward
   Object in Far Distance (do not watch compass)
- When the Calculated Distance is Traveled the Destination will be to the Right or Left Respectively

#### **Camporee Treasure Hunt**

San Miguel			
Distance	Bearing		
200	245		
150	10		
100	150		
50	170		
125	90		
Santa Cruz			
Distance	Bearing		
200	260		
100	10		
150	140		
50	345		
125	85		
Anacapa			
Distance	Bearing		
200	280		
150	30		
100	170		
50	50		
125	130		



Distances are in feet and Bearings are True (non-magnetic) Account for 14 degree Magnetic Declination

### Measuring the Height of a Tree

Н

B

- Method 1 (Stick Method)
  - Find Scout of Convenient Height
  - Put Stick in Hand at Arms Length
  - Adjust Stick to Appear Size of Scout
  - With Stick Project and Count Number of Scouts Up the Tree
  - Multiply Number by Scout Height
- Method 2
  - Similar Triangles
  - X = H \* (A + B)/A
- Method 3 (Felling Method)
  - Cover Tree with Stick at Arms Length
  - Project Tree to Ground and Pace Distance

### Measuring the Width of River

- Method 1 (Compass Method)
  - Take Bearing to Object Directly Across River
  - Pace off Distance at a Right Angle
     Until Bearing to Object is 45 degrees Less
  - Width equals Distance
- Method 2 (Salute Method)
  - With Hand at Arms Length Point to Object Directly Across River
  - Turn 90 degrees and Observe Location Pointed to
  - Pace Distance to Location for Width of River



### Measuring the Width of River

- Method 3 (Stick Method)
  - Put Stick in Ground Opposite an Object Across River
  - Pace Distance A at a Right
     Angle to Line of Sight to Object
  - Put Second Stick in the Ground
  - Continue in Same Direction and Pace Distance A
  - Put Third Stick in the Ground
  - Pace Away from River until Second Stick is in the Line of Sight with the Object Across the River
  - Distance Paced Away from River is the Width of the River



# Find Way Without a Compass Watch Method

- Point Hour hand in the Direction of the Sun
- South is roughly in the Direction of a Line
   Bisecting the Angle
   formed by the Hour
   Hand and 12 o'clock

# Find Way Without a Compass Stick and Shadow Method

- Put Short Stick in Ground Aligned so there is No Shadow (points to Sun)
- Wait about an Hour and Draw a Line in the Dirt in the Direction of the Shadow



A Line Constructed at a Right s
 Angle to the First Line is a North-South Line

# Find Way Without a Compass Equal Length Shadow Method

- Put a Long Stick in the ground Vertically and Mark the End of its Shadow with a Small Stick
- Draw a Circular Arc with the Long Stick at its Center and the Small Stick on the Arc



- Wait until the Shadow again Intersects the Arc
- The Line Connecting the two Intersections of the Shadow with the Circular Arc is an East-West Line
- A Line Constructed Perpendicular to this Ease-West Line is a North-South Line

#### Sun Compass



# Find Way Without a Compass Using Constellations and Stars

- The Big Dipper Points to the North Star (almost)
- Any Northern Constellation or Star at it's Highest Altitude is in the Direction of North
  - Cassiopeia (the "W")
  - Ursa Major (the Big Dipper)
- Any Southern Constellation or Star at it's Highest Altitude is in the Direction of South
  - Orion (the Hunter)
  - Leo (the Lion)
  - Sagittarius (the Teapot)



# Finding Way Without a Compass Using the Moon

- Imagine a Line Touching the Tips of the Moon's Cresent
- Extend this Line Until it Contacts the Horizon
- The Intersection is roughly South of an Observer in the Northern Hemisphere

#### **Information Sources**

- <u>http://www.orienteering.org</u>
- <u>http://www.learn-orienteering.org/</u>
- Boy Scout Handbook
- Orienteering Merit Badge Booklet
- http://geomag.usgs.gov
- SkyGlobe