

2006 GAOC AGM Minutes

June 4, 2006 – Sweetwater Creek State Park

Steve Shannonhouse presiding, called to order 1pm.

Secretary report – 299 total members, 124 voting members, 30 voting members present, we have a quorum.

2005 AGM Minutes approved.

Treasurer's report – Profit on our 2006 A-meet is \$7452 on the A-meet.

Reports of other officers:

Map Coordinator – Kevin Haywood

Bill Farrell and Andreas Haldi have been helping. Currently mailing maps from printer to the meet director, contact Kevin 2-4 weeks ahead to make arrangements.

Equipment Manager – Bill Farrell

Equipment & clubhouse still there and usable, clubhouse leaking. Please bring equipment back dry & packed properly.

JROTC Coordinator – Frank Campbell

JROTC represents one of the fastest growing market of new Orienteers & is a great profit maker for GAOC as well as a great program for the high schools. Frank would like to see efforts in the club to continue with training camps and would like to see JROTC cadets work to achieve national championship status. Frank also mentioned the Area 12 Championship in which GAOC supports JROTC Orienteering, as well as local meets. Area 12 schools are Navy units and we need to work toward getting more Army, Air Force and Marine units involved.

Steve mentioned that GAOC has a travel grant program for school groups & individuals in the schools that attend our local meets. Info and applications on the GAOC website. Steve also mentioned that the 2007 A-meet will be the Southeastern Interscholastics.

Applause on Congratulations to Frank Campbell on his retirement and good work with North Cobb HS NJROTC and Kennesaw Mtn HS NJROTC.

Adventure Racers – Ron Sanders

Ron mentioned there's a great increase in AR people in the Trailblazers and other AR groups and the racers have more than tripled. Ron is holding training for AR and inviting all to the GAOC meets to help with their training. AR races in the Southeast have gotten a lot harder navigationally and they are having to lower the difficulty level in order to pull AR from outside our area. Ron wants GAOC to keep up the good work educating

AR in navigation. Ron has a website on AR and Orienteering coordinating understand between the two groups. AR needs link from GAOC website.

Election of President. Steve explained the duties of the officers and specifically the President. Bill Farrell nominated Martha Carr (seconded). No other nominations. Martha elected by acclamation.

Passing around a volunteer list for Fall local meets.

Topics for Discussion:

6 month vs. 12 month schedule. Most discussion favored a 6-month schedule as long as the next schedule is out in plenty of time. Prefer publishing Spring schedule by December 1 and publishing Fall schedule by May 1.

JROTC – Bill F. asked Frank Campbell for JROTC expectations for GAOC. Frank says that JROTC really has no special expectations, they are okay with the way we are operating. Some discussion was brought up on GAOC possibly doing a trophy meet for JROTC.

Girl Scouts – GAOC manned the USOF booth at the National GS Convention in Atlanta this year.

Meet formats:

Beginner only meets – Steve suggested instead holding an occasional training meet.

Kevin wants the Boy Scouts to understand that local meets are for training, not final competition events. Bill C. suggested advanced Scout Orienteers should teach beginners.

Scouts need to put on their own events in order to earn their badges. They cannot earn badges just by doing small jobs at our local meets. Everyone who volunteers/works at our local meet must be club members, so the Scouts would have to join in order to do the work to earn their badges with GAOC. Robin suggested an info page for Scouts on our GAOC website. Joey says there's a Scout page on the VOC website we could link to.

National Orienteering Day – Sat. Sept. 16 – Jones Bridge CRNRA

This is GAOC's 30th anniversary. GAOC's NOD event will be a free event, everyone should bring a beginner and Bill F. will have specialty courses and activities for newcomers. We'll be giving away some free compasses. The same day Liz will be running a JROTC event that could also be considered a NOD event.

A-meets.

GNC2006 had the Area 12 O-Champs this year with almost 700 people.

GNC2007 will be the SE Interscholastics Champs plus the Area 12 Champs. Frank asked about capacity for Sweetwater Creek. Steve said the ranger will allow us 700 people.

We need to discuss a limit for Area 12 toward this capacity. We'll need 3 sets of awards – Area 12, SE Interscholastics and Regular A-meet. Frank will do the Area 12 and SE Champs awards, and Donna Wood is handling the regular awards. Steve needs to fill some other jobs. The regular Extreme-O crew will be doing the Monday event. Lunches will be bid on, Steve will make up parameters and Frank will distribute call for bids to JROTC units.

GNC2008 – We need a meet director and location for this. Frank asked if everyone likes the President's Day weekend better than MLK weekend.

Training Camps.

Our volunteers are burned out on the training camps we've been having. Steve suggested that we start working with schools for putting on a local meet. Liz reported on how Steve acted as technical director for Stockbridge HS hosting one of our GAOC local events. Frank suggested some pre- and post-training at our local meets. Steve suggested a training coordinator. Frank says the schools could let us know a week in advance and have training at local meets.

E-Punching – Sam Smith gave a report on EP. This will involve over \$6000. Sam explained how EP works. He described the finger stick and control electronic box and how they work. The advantage for runners is that they don't carry a control card and they get a printout of their splits at the end of the event. For the organizing club, it simplifies timing, Start, Finish and Results. The problems are high cost and more work for the course setting team. USOF has equipment for rent, but it's not enough for one of our A-meets. Sam suggested we buy 30 controls, which would be enough for a local meet, plus supplemental to bring USOF's equipment up to what we need. Many people buy their own finger sticks, Sam suggest we buy 50 of the SI card 5. We also need to buy a master control, software and other miscellaneous items, like spare batteries and holders for the control units. Joey said VOC is considering buying about half this and would want to share. Most present expressed a willingness to help with implementing EP in GAOC. Various people brought up problems and solutions.

Sam motioned we make a purchase of EP equipment as he outlined (see Appendix) and it was seconded. Frank says the younger Orienteer really would like it and the profit from the A-meets would pay for this. Martina pointed out that most of the rest of the O-World was already doing this. Called for vote . 15-3-2. passed.

Permanent Courses – Amy Williams. Red Top Mtn has been copying maps, Kevin will send them more. Sweetwater course has a lot of missing controls. Steve will acquire the markers from Bob Domine and Amy will organize a party to replace all markers this Summer. Ron Sanders volunteered to help with the permanent course at Red Top Mtn. FDR is asking for a Permanent course and possibly Dauset Trails. Possibly some of the schools could also help maintain some of the courses. Amy & Steve will organize getting the work parties together to get the permanent courses in good repair.

Mapping – Bill Cheatum is going to update Sweetwater. Bill wants to geo-reference all our maps. Kevin has a mapping project near Milledgeville. Various other sites were mentioned.

Volunteers – Steve talked about volunteer incentives, especially coupons for free meets.

Long Range Plans – possibly bare-bones A-meet at 2008 at Hard Labor Creek. No Meet Director has volunteered yet.

Clubhouse – The Clubhouse leaks. Bill wants a new roof. Sam suggested a new wood barn with an asphalt roof. Bill will organize a repair party.

Move to adjourn. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Robin Shannonhouse
GAOC Secretary

Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. E-punch Report

GAOC 2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Location: Sweetwater Creek St. Park

Date: June 4, 2006

Schedule:

9-11AM Score & Memory-O

12-1PM Picnic

1-3PM AGM

ITEMS

1. Minutes Approval of 2005

2. Reports

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Vice Presidents

VP Mapping

VP Equipment

Topical reports

Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Schools & ROTC, Adventure Racing

3. Elections: President

4. Member Proposals or Items for discussion

a. Schedule

Proposal: Calendar to 6 mo.

Proposal: Meet formats beginner & advanced

Discussion: ROTC meets

Discussion: NOD

b. A meets:

Discussion 2006 Area 12 NJROTC Championships

Discussion 2007 S.E. Interscholastic & Area 12 NJROTC Championships

Proposal 2008 30 yr GAOC Anniversary

c. Training camps

d. Equipment

E-punch

Clubhouse

e. Mapping

Mapping projects

Permanent courses

f. Other

Volunteers

Budget

Long range plan

Details: GAOC website <http://www.gaorienting.org/>

Why e-punch?

- A lot of fun for the competitor.
- Easier start, finish, and results for the meet workers.
- No more checking punches.
- Instant print out of finish times and splits at the finish line.

Why not e-punch?

- Cost.
- More work for the course setter.

Equipment Available for Rent from USOF

USOF currently has the following SportIdent equipment available for rental by member clubs. This is the minimum required to stage a 2-day event.

- 300 rental e-cards
- 2 master stations
- 90 control units
- 90 spare battery packs
- 90 holders for the units
- 2 carrying belts

Rental Charges from USOF

They have a complicated formula - of course. Looks like for an A meet with 350 competitors it would be \$600 to \$700 for equipment.

E-Card rental from USOF

\$1.00/card/day

What Should GAOC Buy?

Controls

The rental units from USOF are not enough for an A meet. We typically use about 100-120 controls for an A meet. A local meet can be held with about 30 controls. If GAOC purchases 30 controls that would give us the best number for both A meets and local meets. In addition we need a master station.

The controls come in two sizes. The older controls that USOF owns are no longer made. The new version 7 control is the same size as the USOF controls and a little lighter. The newest version 8 control is significantly smaller and lighter (only 1/3 as heavy!). They are all the same price.

e-cards

This is the tiny “dipstick” that the competitor carries. These are called SI-cards by the manufacturer. They now come in two versions, 5 and 6. USOF rents version 5. Version 5 holds 39 punches. Version 6 holds 64 and costs almost twice as much. For our purposes I recommend version 5.

Since our focus with the e-punch is for the A meet, and we can rent 300 e-cards from USOF, and since competitors are free to purchase their own e-cards (something we should encourage for the regulars), I suggest we hold our purchase of e-cards down to around 50-80. With that number we could use e-punch for local meet, and it would supplement the number we can rent from USOF for an A meet.

Software

We have to buy the OEvent software to run the A meet. The software to program the controls is free from the manufacturer.

Miscellaneous

We already have laptops. We will need holders for the controls and some spare batteries. I suggest we hold off on buying a lot of batteries until NEXT year, otherwise they will just sit on the shelf unused and discharging. The batteries are supposed to last several years.

Item	Quantity	Euros	Dollars	Total
Controls - BSF-8	30	97.50	126.00	3780
e-cards, SI-card 5	50	25.30	33.00	1650
Master, BSM7	1	103.00	133.00	133
Inductive Coupler	1	11.00	14.00	14
Off card	1	25.30	33.00	33
Software	1		250.00	250
Holders	30	4.50	6.00	180
Batteries	5	5.80	7.0	35
Total (US dollars)				6075

What is not included

Control stands - We'll have to either buy some or come up with something ourselves. Or use a tree...