

Bay Area Orienteering Club

20 Folin Lane
Lafayette, CA 94549

To: **All Scouts, Scout Leaders, Committee Members and Parents**

Re: **32nd Bay Area Scout Orienteering Championships, October 25, 2026 at Tilden Park**

Are you and your Scout Troop ready to test your map reading and navigation abilities? Are you ready to pass the map and compass requirements for First Class, Second Class, or the Orienteering merit badge? The Bay Area Orienteering Club is pleased to offer the **thirty-second annual Scout-O**, a cross-country map and compass adventure designed to test the map-reading ability, compass skills and backwoods savvy of any troop regardless of size or experience.

GIRL SCOUTS, DAISIES through AMBASSADORS, BOY SCOUTS, CUBS, TIGERS through WEBELOS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. Instruction will be offered prior to the event so that all Scouts, regardless of prior experience, will be able to take part in the actual competition. There will be courses of four distinct levels of difficulty, so that no Scout should encounter a challenge beyond his or her capabilities.

The event will be held in **Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley.** The park has been mapped to International Orienteering Federation (IOF) standards. The details shown on these 5-color maps far exceeds those available on even the newest U.S. Geological Survey topographical maps. Teams may keep their maps as they will be useful for future instruction and reference.

Water will not be provided on the courses – please bring your own water.

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE EVENT. It may be necessary to constrain the number of participants, so register early (first come, first served). The Orienteering Club announcement is attached. To register for the event, send the electronic registration to gavinwm@comcast.net . Also please send a paper copy of the registration form and payment check made out to BAOC to:

Gavin Wyatt-Mair
20 Folin Lane
Lafayette, Ca. 94549

For detailed information, see the BAOC announcement below, or visit the Bay Area Orienteering Club website at WWW.BAOC.ORG

Or, contact the Meet Director:

Gavin Wyatt-Mair
Tel. (775)-691-6384
E-mail: GavinWM@comcast.net

The event will be held on **Sunday October 25, 2026.** A regular Bay Area Orienteering Club event will be held simultaneously at the same location, so anyone wishing to do the BAOC courses is also welcome. Pass the word.

We are pleased to announce the **thirty-second** annual **Bay Area Scout Orienteering Championship**. Who will be champions this year? Everyone stands a chance!! Some practice, some fitness, and some thinking will get you a long way. So come on out - bring your compasses, running shoes and your brains - and have fun!

ScoutO 2026 is being held in conjunction with a regular BAOC meet.

The format for this year's ScoutO championships is described below. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of all ages are welcome, and the competition is arranged to accommodate any skill level. In addition, the courses are arranged to meet the map and compass requirements for First Class, Second Class or the Orienteering Merit Badge.

There will be patches. Anyone who has not yet received a patch for a prior year's event can get it at this year's, or by contacting the meet director. The patches are "progressive", so that a scout can participate in multiple scout-o's and add to his or her patch sequence.

We will have electronic punching.

Competitive Categories: Scouts will compete against other scouts with the same orienteering experience. Four courses will be offered.

- Course 1:** Daisies, Brownies, Cub scout dens, Webelo dens, Tenderfoot and Junior scouts – or scouts with very little (less than 2) prior orienteering experiences: Dens and younger scouts run in groups of 2-6 with an adult advisor who should follow his or her group, not lead it; Tenderfoot scouts will run in pairs.
- Course 2:** Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, second Class and/or first-class scouts – or scouts with minimal (2 to 5) orienteering experiences: Compete in pairs.
- Course 3:** Seniors, Ambassadors, Star, Life and/or Eagle scouts - or scouts with substantial (more than 5) orienteering experiences: Compete in pairs.
- Course 4:** Advanced, experienced orienteers of any rank: Run alone or with a buddy on a typical Orienteering USA orange level course.
- Adult course:** All leaders and parents are invited to compete on a course similar to but separate from course 3. They may run in groups or alone. Leaders/parents should also pre-register. Leader results are for bragging rights only and will not affect troop scoring.

NOTE: Choose your courses carefully - there are more points available for doing the harder courses (we are encouraging scouts to "move up" a notch), but don't get on a course you can't finish, because then you will likely lose points. As a rule of thumb, the points available for course 2 are about 10% more than course 1. Course 3 is about 20% more, and course 4 is about 30% more than course 1.

Afternoon meet: All scouts may compete in a troop event in the afternoon. Both morning and afternoon events will contribute to the troop total score to determine the troop championship.

Hint: The more scouts that attend from a given troop, the better the troop usually does. We combine the top N scouts' scores from the morning and afternoon events to get the troop score. The value N is set by the meet director on the day of the meet, based on conditions and attendance.

Registration Information:

All troops participating in Scout-O must be pre-registered and prepaid. **Registration will close on Monday, October 19, 2026.** The cost of the event is \$10.00 per scout or participating leader. Choose your teams carefully, because they must remain together. Mixed category teams are possible, but will compete on the course of the higher-ranking scout. Each troop may have one 3-person team to allow for odd numbers.

Registration forms are included in this bulletin. Troops may obtain additional registration forms and detailed information from the meet director:

Gavin Wyatt-Mair
20 Folin Lane
Lafayette, Ca. 94549
Tel: (775)691-6384 mobile
E-mail: GavinWM@comcast.net

Registration forms and information will also be available at the registration desk at other scheduled BAOC meets through September. An electronic registration spreadsheet will be available on the club web site (www.BAOC.org).

Start times: The meet will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2026. Instruction will begin at 9:00 am. There will be a **15 minute walk** to the Start, please allow yourself time. The start time of each individual team will be determined by the entry date of their troop. In general, start times will begin at 10:00 am and go until about noon. The Afternoon event will run from 1:15 to 2:45 pm. The awards ceremony will begin at 3:15 pm and the meet will be closed at 3:40 pm. It is advisable to arrive at the meet by 9:00 am. We will try to stick to the pre-assigned start times - it's less confusing that way. The Finish will be close to the assembly area and Parking. Start times will be posted on the internet at BAOC.ORG on Saturday, October 24th. Bring compasses, and remember, we go - rain or shine!

Prizes: Awards will be made to the best teams on each course. The champion troops will be determined by the results in all categories including the afternoon event. As before, there will be medals, certificates and a Troop trophy. There will be awards for the top "Junior" Scout troop (cubs, webelos, daisies, brownies, etc) as well as the top Girl Scout troop if a Boy Scout troop wins, or the top Boy Scout troop if a Girl Scout troop wins. Each participant will receive a progressive (by course) participation patch.

Equipment: You will each need water, strong trail shoes, long pants (Tilden has stickers!), a pen or pencil, a watch and a compass. You may want a hat, sunscreen, etc. if it's hot, or rain gear if it's rainy. Bring your own lunch and water.

Directions: **GPS: 37.896475, -122.252317.** The event arena will be at Lake Anza. There is no charge for parking. Please car-pool if possible. There are many ways to get to Tilden Park. Here is one: From Highway 24, take Fish Ranch Road exit (this exit is just east of the Caldecott Tunnel). Go Northwest up Fish Ranch Road for 1 km, to the top of the hill. Turn right on Grizzly Peak Blvd. Wind around on Grizzly Peak for about 2.5 km until you reach the South Park Drive entrance to Tilden Park (don't take the steam trains entrance, go past until South Park Drive). Once you are inside the Park, follow the Park signs to Lake Anza and Park at the Lake. Although Lake Anza is just 400 meters south-south-east of the Merry-Go-Round, but please do NOT park in the Merry-Go-Round parking.

Web Site: The latest information and electronic registration information can be found on the Bay Area Orienteering Club Internet web site at www.BAOC.org Prior years' results are also available there.

Mail-in Troop Registration Form

Tilden Scout-O'

25-Oct-2026

ALL TROOPS MUST PRE-REGISTER. (Use this form if you can't use the electronic method. Please register electronically by e-mail if you can - it's more accurate and saves a lot of time).

Registration forms must be mailed **by October 19, 2026**. Send with payment to:

Gavin Wyatt-Mair, 20 Folin Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549. Tel (775)691-6384

The cost is \$10.00 per scout or participating leader. Make checks payable to BAOC.

Troop No. _____ District _____ Council _____
City/Town _____ State _____ Total number registering _____
Adult leader _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Phone _____
_____ E-mail _____

Please enter the course (1, 2, 3, 4 or Adult) for each team, as well as the names of the team members. This information allows us to set up the electronic database for fast results.

Team	Course	Name	Name	Name	Name	Name	Name
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

____ Youths registered x \$10.00 + ____ Adults* registered x \$10.00 = ____ Total \$ enclosed

* Only adults who are competing on the adult course, or who want a map, need to register and pay the \$10.00 fee. Adult "advisors" on course 1 are not required to register and pay unless they want a map.

Reminder: Course 1 is easiest and shortest, on trails, and is for beginners. No orienteering experience is needed. Teams of 2 to 6, plus adult advisor.

Course 2 is longer, controls are off-trail, but visible from the trail. Some orienteering experience is advisable. Teams of 2.

Course 3 is between course 2 and 4 in navigational difficulty and length. Teams of 2.

Course 4 is a typical Orienteering USA orange course, suitable for intermediate orienteers with substantial prior orienteering experience. Controls and optimal route choice are off-trail, and the course is longer. Compete alone. Teams of 2 permitted if mandated by scouters.

Instructions for electronic registration can be found on the BAOC web site (www.BAOC.org). **You must still mail in your payment as well – please be sure to identify your troop number on your check.**