

Georgia Orienteer Club 2020 Annual General Meeting

ZOOM Meeting, June 14, 2020 2:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order and presided by Charlie Bleau at 2:05pm.

Members present: Charlie Bleau, Chun Bleau, Bill Farrell, Martha Carr, Rick Shane, Fred Zendt, Steve Houghton, Anne Ledbetter, John Chambers, Ron Hojnowski, Kevin Haywood, Vinton Wolfe, Jeff Lybarger, Bob Frost, Sam Smith, Robin Shannonhouse, Steve Shannonhouse, Tristan Smith, Anna Bringle, Per Bringle

1. Minutes from the 2019 AGM were discussed and approved. Larger font was suggested.
2. Reports
 - a. President - Charlie Bleau presented written report, attached
 - b. Secretary - Andi Berger reported that the club has 433 Full members (81 individual, 20 couple, 251 Youth Group) and 473 Associate members (annual waivers only).
 - c. Treasurer - Robin Shannonhouse presented written reports, attached; Fred asked about moving money to savings account, but current low interest rates give little advantage
3. Elections
 - a. President – Charlie Bleau was elected
 - b. Officer at Large –Rick Shane was elected
 - c. Officer At Large – Fred Zendt was elected
4. Items for Discussion
 - a. National Meets
 - i. GNC – Plans are in flux because of coronavirus pandemic; many national meets are being canceled because OUSA is pulling sanctioning; if we were to apply for sanctioning, we might get it, but sanctioning could be withdrawn as late as early December; if we do proceed with plans, we need to make sure it makes sense to proceed without sanctioning; need to consider our volunteers; would probably be more short-handed than usual; maybe use fixed start times, split starts by age to separate young from elderly, outdoors vs indoors, restrooms; probably need to figure out a plan by end of summer; need to meet state park guidelines and risk being shut down by parks; Jeff Lybarger stated that medical experts are anticipating COVID-19 case count going up in the fall; Ron H suggested pushing date to April 2020. Discussion or reengineering start and finish to make it contactless: separate chutes, can only approach start 10 minutes before start time, runners pick up hanging map instead of reaching into bin, no large building for meet headquarters; Ron H gave a summary of current status of groups at schools: conditioning is allowed in groups of 25, bus trips probably won't be allowed, more cars will probably be driven to meets; Charlie suggested lengthening the start interval; Vinton suggested learning from how we handle our local meets, using air cards only; Charlie mentioned renting e-sticks for entire year, leaving controls in woods for the week; Motion was made to start planning

to host GNC 2021 and establish a planning/feasibility committee (meet director, course setter, registrar, vetter) with final approval of plan by officers.

Discussion involved reserving park for MLK weekend and also for a weekend in April so dates can be shifted if necessary, status of parks (no group events through July, normal operations beginning August 1). Motion carried with 1 against. Ron H suggested that school parents who have helped with JROTC events have the knowledge and probably the willingness to volunteer. Charlie opened discussion of designating GNC 2021 as USA 2020 Masters Championship.

b. Local Meets

- i. Sam's bare bones McIntosh meet was successful: 26 of 28 preregistered/prepaid people showed up; no more than 3 or 4 people at a time in the shelter; people showed up a few minutes before their assigned start time; picked up their maps from a box; bagged their map; and headed out on the course; no epunching; Sam wrote down start and finish times. Discussed using MapRunF in addition to epunching for those runners who are not comfortable with epunching.
- ii. Suggestion was made to set up courses with flags and leave them for an entire weekend or month. Registration and payment would be required to get a map. The question of liability was raised – if club charges fee, our insurance would cover liability. Some OUSA clubs are already doing this.
- iii. Robin made a motion that we stop accepting cash and checks at meets, require pre-registration and pre-payment at all local meets until the next AGM. If someone pre-registers and pays and does not go to the meet, they can apply to the Secretary for a coupon. Martha asked about people who show up without pre-registering; proposed solution would be to allow them to register online from the park, but entering their info into the timing computer would still be an issue with the current registration system. Discussion turned to CRNRA and State Parks possible movement to push us out of the parks. Motion passed with 1 opposed.
- iv. Permanent Courses – Charlie proposed giving meet directors the option to set up a permanent course in lieu of their regular local meet if they are not comfortable with a regular meet; Ron had offered to be coordinator for permanent courses. Permanent courses become property of the park and park manages maps and starts. Runners on permanent courses create trails to the controls; courses should be changed more frequently. Marker locations could be permanent, but courses could change frequently. Orienteering apps could be used with permanent courses.

c. Equipment and Resources

- i. E-Punch - Vinton suggested local meets without punching or with punching only at finish and start; disinfecting controls after use. Have less than 60 numbered controls. Could write numbers on duct tape on a stand. Brief discussion of requiring pre-assigned individual start times; require air cards? Expensive for runners, controls must be awakened; No monitors for results display, publish through wifi; should we look at buying more air cards? Currently have 50 air cards for rent and 20 to sell;

- ii. Vinton made a motion to sell up to half our rental SI8s for \$15 each or 3 coupons; motion carried
 - iii. Clubhouse
 - iv. Mapping
 - v. Safety
 - d. Budget
 - i. Hold events we usually hold plus GNC, mapping, permanent courses
 - ii. Various mapping projects that are currently underway
 - e. Online Store
 - i. Can buy club jerseys and air cards with coupons or cash
 - ii. Add SI8s?
 - f. Safety
 - i. Bought GoTenna devices for tracking, minimal testing so far
 - ii. NJROTC is pushing hard for safety; Ron created briefing that is widely used, started putting emergency info on maps, required signing safety briefing checklists, display large map of venue with start, finish, out of bounds, and safety bearings at event, and send smaller version of same map to schools before the event
 - iii. Discussion of how to keep kids from wandering off the map. Strongly recommend cell phone for safety purposes, starters check everyone's equipment (water, cell phone, whistle, compass) at start, query safety bearing.
 - iv. Motion was made to put no water on courses this year and require runners age 18 and under to carry at least ½ liter of water and show water carrying device at start and finish; publish all of this on website and registration pages; Charlie and Ron will write up the text to publish
 - v. Kevin will check that emergency number is on the map before map goes to printer
 - g. Schedule
 - i. Don't have a date of when to expect 2020-2021 schedule to be published; Charlie suggesting waiting until August to start planning in earnest, Ron would like to kick off season in early September, Robin suggested contacting the parks now. Rick has contacted Mallory Barfield with GA DNR, who responded that we should be fine for this fall; Maybe start with fall schedule only – now until GNC

Meeting was adjourned at 4:48pm.