

TempO Course Notes

Mason Dixon Classic

April 26, 2014

Welcome to the first TempO event for the Delaware Valley Orienteering Association. Enthusiastic club support has been instrumental in making this event a reality. We hope you find it enjoyable. A brief introduction to TempO follows the specific notes for this event.

If you have not registered for the TempO but would like to participate please feel free to do so. Just go to the TempO registration area along the road west of the relay arena. Same day registration is \$15.

The course will consist of 1 model station and 2 TempO stations with 5 maps each. The model area is along the road just south of the relay arena.

The maps we will be using are ISOM and have a scale of 1:4000 with 2.5 meter contour intervals. A symbol that is not normally used on an ISOM map but is used on this course is the small closed green circle. This symbol depicts a distinct tree with a trunk diameter of less than 0.5 meter. An open green circle indicates a distinct tree with trunk diameter greater than 0.5 meter.

The course will be open for competition from 8:15am to 9am. The remaining times the course will be open for demonstration purposes are 9:30 am to 11:30 am and 1 pm to 3 pm. If you would like to start earlier than your assigned start time please feel free to do so. If you show up at your assigned start time and there is a wait time you will be given preference and allowed to go to the head of the line. If you want to take part in the competition window and have not already contacted the registrar, you must contact Karl Ahlswede directly at 215-837-0518 and be at the parking area at 745am for transportation to the competition area.

Scoring for TempO is by time only. You will be given 5 minutes to complete each viewing station, 60 seconds per map. A time penalty of 60 seconds will be given for each incorrect answer. The competitor with the lowest time will be the winner. (The usual TempO course allows 30 seconds per map with a 30 second time penalty for each incorrect answer but we wanted to give novices at TempO a gentler introduction to the competition.)

After registration you can proceed to the first waiting area along the road until called up to the first viewing station. The procedure for the course is included on a separate page and there will be copies of these instructions at the registration and model area.

After completion of the second viewing station return the scoring sheet to registration.

Answers for the course will be distributed after the competition window closes and will be given to the demonstration participants after they have turned in their scoring sheet. Complaints and protests are to be finalized by 915am when the jury will meet for deliberations if needed. Medals for the 1st 3 places in the open, paralympic and junior categories will be distributed at the awards ceremony.

Brief Introduction to TempO

There are two types of Trail O competition. One is the classic course, also called PreO, with multiple stations and one or two timed controls. A TempO course has timed controls only. The difference for the TempO timed controls is that “none of the above” or a Z choice is a possibility.

The objective in both types of orienteering is to correctly identify the control found at the center of the circle on the map.

For TempO, competitors are required to sit at a designated place where all control flags in the terrain can be seen clearly. The TempO official will point to each of the flags and indicate their proper labels. The flag furthest to the left in the terrain is labeled A and the control furthest to the right is labeled F.

The competitors are given a set of maps which depicts only the terrain around the controls. These maps will be given to the competitor so that the maps are oriented to the competitor. A symbol indicating magnetic north will be found above the map section. The control descriptions will be found below the map sections and are oriented to the competitor. Because control descriptions on a foot orienteering map are always oriented to the north, this difference can cause problems for novices to TempO.

TempO competitors will view each map, determine which control flag in the terrain corresponds to the one depicted on the map and described in the control description and point to their answer on a “punch” card showing A, B, C, D, E, F and Z. The “punch” card is usually on a stand in front of the competitor. The competitor’s answer is recorded and the competitor follows the same procedure for all the maps in the set. Usually there are 3 to 5 maps viewed at each station.

The competitor proceeds to all remaining stations until the course is completed.

The competitors are ranked according to their time, which is the time needed to answer all controls and a penalty for each incorrect answer.

An excellent online way to practice TempO is found at www.trailo.it