

NEWSLETTER  
Buffalo Orienteering Club

January-February 1981

vol. 2, no. 1

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"If you don't get everything you want, think of  
the things you don't get that you don't want."

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CALENDAR

- Jan. 11 - New England Ski-O Championships. Woodstock, VT. Four courses of varying difficulty, awards, etc. For information, call 617-369-5393.
- Jan. 25 - Ski-O Meet. Highland Forest, Fabius, NY (Near Syracuse)  
For information, call 315-458-8248.
- Feb. 8 - Can-Am Ski-O Challenge. Sardinia, NY. Hosted by the Buffalo Orienteering Club. Complete information on page 3.

Future Events:

- April 11-12 - "A" Meet, Ramapo OC, New Jersey  
April 25-26 - "A" Meet, USMAOC, West Point, NY.  
May 9-10 - Troll Cup "A" Meet, NEOC, New Hampshire  
June 4-7 - USOF Convention and "A" Meet, Indiana, PA

(Mark these dates on your new calendar and watch future issues of this newsletter for more information.)

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"JUST WHAT IS SKI-ORIENTEERING, ANYWAY?"

(Reprinted with revisions from the USOF Newsletter)

Ski-Orienteering is more than cross-country skiing with a map and more than orienteering wearing skis. To be successful at ski-O, a competitor must be able to blend skiing and orienteering skills together and come up with something new. As in foot orienteering, the ski-orienteer must be able to balance various route choices while watching contours to avoid excessive climbing and keeping track of junctions, trails and turns.

Generally, however, ski-O involves more skiing ability than map and compass work. Navigation is usually by trails and other major features since details such as boulders, pits and ravines can be lost with a foot of snow on the ground.

Ski-O courses are generally longer and contain fewer controls than foot-O courses. Ideally, the area used will have an abundance of ski trails going in all directions. Route choice is the fundamental challenge of ski-O, not the searching for controls. Control placement is therefore very simple compared with foot-O. Four courses are available at class "A" meets: White (2-3 km), Orange (4-6 km), Red (6-9 km), and Blue (10-20 km). All distances are based on the shortest skiable route between controls not requiring bushwacking.

Equipment is generally simple. Standard cross-country skis and poles are, of course, necessary. A wrist compass or a common compass attached to one arm is adequate since it is used primarily for orienting the map and checking direction. It is rarely used for taking a compass bearing. The last piece of equipment needed is a map case. Since both hands are needed for skiing, the map case is usually attached to the chest. Members of NEOC have designed a Do-It-Yourself Map Case. It's easy to construct but difficult to describe. (For a copy of a sketch of this contraption, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Editor of this newsletter at 52 Ardmore Place, Buffalo, NY 14213).

In conclusion, it's not likely that ski-orienteering will be the "fastest growing outdoor winter sport in the eastern U.S. in the 80's". It's still fun, though. You'll get a kick (and glide) out of it! Think snow!!

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HUMBLE APOLOGIES

A very nice letter from Barb Sleight of the Syracuse Orienteering Club has set the record straight on the winner of the D43 category at the U.S. Orienteering Championships. As Barb correctly points out, the winner was Liz Sorensen from SLOC, not Sara Mae Berman as this newsletter erroneously reported in the last issue. Sara Mae finished second.

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SKI-WOC 1980: AVESTA, SWEDEN

(To get you in the mood, we thought you might like to read this account of the 1980 World Ski-O Championship, which was printed in the "IOF REPORT")

The third World Championships in Ski-Orienteering in Sweden, on February the 26th to March the 1st 1980 attracted 60 competitors from 11 countries, including far-away Japan. The Championships were held at the birthplace of ski-orienteering, in the Swedish province Dalarna.

The Individual On February the 28th, 1980:

The map used, a ski-orienteering map scale 1:30000, produced specially for these Championships, was very good. In the terrain the tracks were prepared using ski-doo's and a track planer. The tracks were close to impeccable, with the exception of some parts close to roads, where the sunshine and the dirt somewhat decreased the feasibility. The tracks were close to each other, and there were many alternative routes to choose from.

In the middle of the competition it started to snow slightly, which may have influenced the performances of the last competitors to start, depending on how well their skis were waxed of course.

Finland took Gold in both individual competitions. High up in the results list the differences in time were rather small. The Finnish World Champion of 1975, Olavi Svanberg, came in exactly 3 minutes after the winner, Pertti Tikka, also from Finland, and was placed 6th. Ann Larrson from Sweden, who took bronze in the Ladies' competition, came in 3 minutes after the winner Mirja Puhakka.

The Relay on March 1st 1980:

The Relay was carried out using the same map as in the individual, although not in exactly the same area. As the competition was arranged during a week-end, there were far more spectators at the Relay than at the individual: approximately 3,000 persons.

The network of tracks at the Relay was also very good, and offered possibilities for several different choices of routes, requiring of the participants both good skiing and exact map reading.

The Finnish Ladies Team was in the lead from start to finish. The Swedish Men's Team, which showed great fighting spirit, was close behind the Finnish Team during the first two legs, and took a narrow lead of a little less than one minute during the third leg. In the end the Swedes took the Gold, about five minutes better than Finland, though the Finns provided for excitement all the way.

Final Remarks.

It was to be seen that Sweden and Finland are still the two strong countries in ski-orienteering, but on the other hand, that the difference in comparison to other countries is getting ever slighter. The difference is mainly due to better skiing techniques and skiing fitness, and not so much to difference in orienteering skills.

The next world Championships will be conducted in the heart of Middle Europe, in Austria. We all hope that the competition between the participating nations there will be still more exciting. Additionally, we hope for representatives from those countries which are new in ski-orienteering. Without forgetting anybody, I would like to see more competitors from countries such as Canada, the USA, Japan, the GDR, the USSR, Switzerland and Norway.

See you at the Pre-Games in 1981, and above all, at the World Championships at Aigen in 1982 !  
- Mikko Heikkila

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BUFFALO ORIENTEERING CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ PhoneNo. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: (check one) \$3.00 \_\_\_ Single, \$5.00 \_\_\_ Family. Good from Jan. '81 - Dec. '81

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: BUFFALO ORIENTEERING CLUB

May we list your address and phone in our annual members directory \_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_ No.  
New Membership, Renewal

For Family Memberships, enclose the names of your family members.

MAIL TO: Buffalo Orienteering Club, 1084 Bowen Dr. E., North Tonawanda, NY 14120

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CAN-AM SKI-O CHALLENGE  
Sardinia, N.Y.

February 8, 1981

The Buffalo Orienteering Club invites you to a Class "A" Ski-O meet sanctioned by the U.S. Orienteering Federation and the U.S. Ski Association - Eastern. The event is open to everyone regardless of skiing ability or Orienteering experience.

**MAP:** The map is a new B & W, scale 1:20,000, drawn by David Cady in the Fall of 1980. The contour interval is 20 feet.

**TERRAIN:** The area is mainly wooded with numerous roads and trails going in all directions. Maximum change in elevation on a course leg will be 40 meters.

**SITE:** The meet will be located in the Sardinia Forest on Genesee Road in Sardinia, N.Y. It is located in the heart of the Lake Erie snow belt and was the site of one of the few X-C Ski Races with sufficient snow last season.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Buffalo, follow I-90 South to Exit 55. Take Route 219 South to Genesee Road. Turn left and travel about 5.5 miles to the meet site. From the West, exit I-90 at Dunkirk/Fredonia and follow Route 39 East to Route 219. Take 219 North to Genesee Road and turn right. Travel about 5.5 miles to meet site. From the East, exit I-90 at Batavia (Exit 48) and follow Route 98 South to Route 39. Turn right (West) and travel to Route 16. Turn right (North) and follow Route 16 about 3 miles to Genesee Road. Turn left (West) and travel about 4 miles to the meet site.

**ENTRY FEES:**

White Course - All Classes	\$2.00
Orange, Red and Blue Courses -	
Basic Fee	6.00
Under 14	2.00
USSA Members	3.00
USOF, COF, & IOF Members	2.00
Late Fee (After Jan. 31, 1981) add	\$1.00 to above fees.

**COURSES & CLASSES:** H = Male, D = Female Age As Of Dec. 31, 1981

Blue (10-15 km)	Red (6-9 km)	Orange (4-6 km)	White (2-3 km)
H 21-34 Elite	D 19-34 Elite	D 15-18	D 14 & under
	H 19-20	D 35-42	H 14 & under
	H 35-42	D 43 & over	D Open (any age)
	H 43 & over	H 15-18	H Open (any age)
	H Open (any age)	D Open (any age)	
		H Open (any age)	

**SCHEDULE:** Registration 9:30-10:30 at meet site. First start at 11:00 AM

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Maps will be pre-marked, but competitors must supply their own map cases. No rental compasses or refreshments will be available. Heated indoor (wood fire) waxing area. A decision to cancel due to poor weather conditions will be made by Feb. 6, 1981 after 6:00 PM. Call 716-692-7592 for information.

ENTRY FORM - CAN-AM SKI-O CHALLENGE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COURSE \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

AGE (AS OF 12/31/81) \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRY FEE \_\_\_\_\_

For Information: 716-692-7592 (LATE FEE) \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: P. Quinlan, 1084 Bowen Dr., E.  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Checks payable to: Buffalo O Club. Entries must be postmarked by Jan. 31, 1981.

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY** (All Competitors MUST sign):

In consideration of acceptance of this entry, intending to be legally bound, I do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the State of New York, Erie County, the Buffalo Orienteering Club and its members, the United States Orienteering Federation, and the United States Ski Association, their representatives, successors and assign for injuries and damages by, during, or resulting from this event.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

If under 18 years of age, signature of parent or legal guardian:

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy 1981. I hope that this year holds as much promise for you as it does for the BOC. In 1981, the BOC is going "Big Time" and will host the U.S. Championships in October. This will be our first effort to hold a USOF class "A" meet.

The meet will be a two-day event with the first day's activities held at Boy Scout Camp Schoellkopf. Day Two will be held at our Sardinia Forest site. Both areas will boast a new 5-color map made in Sweden. The funding for both of these maps is already arranged. The future of the project now depends on the help of our members. A lot of organization and effort will be required by all of us to make it a success.

If we are successful, there will be many benefits for our club. The most obvious is an increase in the quality of our maps. We should be in a good position to make another 5-color map for a future "A" meet. The most important benefit will be an increase in our club's spirit and togetherness by working for a common goal.

In January, we will be organizing into small committees, each with a chairman and a task. Please lend a hand if you are called to help. If all goes well, by this time next year we will be able to say that 1981 was the year of the Buffalo... (Orienteering Club, that is).  
- P. Quinlan

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MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

If you are a member, your renewal is due. Send it in TODAY. Don't delay!

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COMING UP IN THE NEXT BIG ISSUE: (March - April)

- Results of Ski-0
- Preview of Annual Meeting
- How we plan to organize the U.S. Championships
- Membership renewal hard sell
- Preview of Spring meets
- How to get started in Orienteering

Look for it in your mailbox on or about March 1st

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BUFFALO ORIENTEERING CLUB OFFICERS:

- President - Pat Quinlan, 1084 Bowen Dr. E., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 692-7592
- Treasurer - Judy Freuhauf, 82 Spruce Road, Amherst, NY 14226 833-7696
- Secretary - (Vacant)

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NEWSLETTER STAFF:

- Editor - David Cady, 52 Ardmore Place, Buffalo, NY 14213 886-2969
- Assistant - Barbara Gardner

Address all inquiries to the Editor at the above address. Material for publication in the next issue must be received by February 20th.

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BOC NEWSLETTER  
c/o David Cady  
52 Ardmore Place  
Buffalo, NY 14213