

## Buffalo Orienteering Club Board Meeting Minutes

09/23/2025, 7:00 -8:45 pm via Google Meet

Attendees: Phil Wolfling, Rob Reeves, Rod Cameron, Lynne DePasquale, Adam Cady, Simon Wolfling, Dave Cady (non-voting)

### Action Items in Bold

- Approve the 7/14/2025 board meeting minutes and review action items
  - Dave plans to try out the MESO meet result program at the Knox farm meet.
    - Phil had an issue with OR caused by a Java update but it has been fixed now.
  - **Phil is still working on purchasing two cash boxes.**
  - Phil talked to Gear for Adventure about their map hike supply, they would look into it but he has not heard back. Phil has not reached out to Hyatts about more map hike kits.
- Past Events
  - Knox Farm Meet, 7/19
    - **Phil working on meet report.**
    - Phil noted it went well with a fair number of walk-ups.
  - Chestnut Ridge Learn & Practice, 8/7
    - Lynne noted 3 registered, \$5 profit
    - Phil got the permit for the event.
    - **Lynne to work on meet report and also send one for the spring learn and practice.**
  - Rademacher Park Score-O, 9/13
    - Simon noted a good turnout with 24 attendees. Good weather. **Working on the meet report**, revenue will be negative due to the toilet rental.
    - Simon noted that Mark Wolfling vetted the control locations. Adam, Mark, and Stina helped pick up afterwards.
      - Simon noted there was a fair amount of rose bushes off trail and looked like a bunch of new trails or changes to the existing ones that were not marked on the map.
    - Rob asked Dave about the worth of checking in with the biking group that maintains the trails to see about if they can update us when they change trails.
      - Dave said that is possible and likely some routine maintenance to identify changes like rootstocks would be good to do.
      - Adam noted the group WNYMBA has a Facebook page they are fairly active on and they have their own trail maps.
- Upcoming Events
  - Erie County Forestry Score-O, 10/4
    - Phil submitted permit on 9/14, waiting for a response.

- Rod requested assistance with control pickup.
        - Adam noted he can assist.
    - Knox Farm Night-O, 11/8
      - Dave obtained the permit, registration is open.
    - Cazenovia Park Winter-O, 2/21
      - Lynne contacted Linda at Sheas Seneca – they said try back after the start of the year. The 21<sup>st</sup> at least is not viable for them and noted a Sunday would be more viable.
      - Dave said next best place is the city ice rink or the coffee shop next door to the Sheas (they close early though).
        - Adam noted a new event space across the street from Sheas - The Caz.
        - **Dave will check on his contact for the ice rink from the last time the event was staged there.**
        - Dave noted the senior citizen's center is also an option and is next to the ice rink.
      - Lynne can design the course again but is welcome to assistance.
- Standing Committee Reports
  - Mapping
    - Dave has been working on Chestnut Ridge, won't be done by the end of this year and likely will extend into the spring and summer next year to finish it up. He is starting at the south end and working north.
      - **Dave will check with Henry on using the new southern mapped end for his meet next year.**
      - Dave is focusing on identifying the dangerous cliffs and slopes at the southern end.
    - Jennifer Grande has been using O-CAD to do simple maps around Gowanda. She is making good progress on learning mapping.
      - Lynne asked if she is mapping a new park.
        - Dave noted yes, Jennifer made a map for a small block park, involves all the aspects of creating a full map so it is good practice.
        - Lynne noted that maybe could use the small maps made during training to do learn and practice events.
        - Dave agreed to the idea.
      - **Dave to check in with Rod on status of Stonehaven mapping.**
  - Finance
    - Rob presented the financial mid-year report Henry provided and ran through the info. The club is in good standing, with a higher revenue than last year mainly from the Sprint event this past spring.
    - Rob noted that Henry watched the OUSA video on beginner forums and had some thoughts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9e4SDBGKhc>

- Orienteering club Rep from Florida in the video noted their collaboration with REI to do beginner classes at the store. Attendance did very well and they went from classroom style classes with PowerPoints and presentations to adding an outdoor component.
- Henry suggested reaching out to REI to see about partnering with them to do beginner classes and possibly see if they would stock our map hikes.
  - Lynne is interested in helping out with Henry.
- Map Hikes
  - Rob asked if Phil would be interested in reaching out to REI about map hikes.
    - Phil noted if someone else is willing he would prefer it.
    - Adam is willing to reach out.
      - Rob noted there isn't much of a rush but maybe reach out for potentially selling them in the next map hike season in April. Also potentially reach out about hosting beginner classes at the same time.
- Website & Communications
  - Lynne was unable to meet with Jennifer to help as a website backup. Will try to reschedule.
    - Jennifer had sent some instructions and login info for the website to Rob and Lynne to take a look at.
    - Lynne noted she will look through the info.
- Membership
  - No update.
- Marketing
  - Lynne reached out to the County Parks to see about getting Orienteering added to their "things to do in the Parks" page. **She is currently in conversations with them on that.**
  - Lynne noted that the NYSDEC has a challenge for families and kids to get outside and do things. A couple are related to orienteering potentially. **Lynne is working on an email to the NYSDEC contact seeing about adding orienteering links to the activities for the local orienteering clubs.**
    - <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/get-offline-get-outside>
- Equipment
  - Dave asked if we should close the business account with Amazon.
    - **Rob noted to try to opt out of the promotional emails but keep it open.**

- Phil noted he is missing a few equipment parts from the learn and practice event.
      - **Lynne noted she has them and will coordinate to get them to Phil.**
    - **Rod to coordinate to pick up equipment for Sardinia from Phil.**
- Old Business
  - Map Hike cost analysis
    - No update.
  - Laptop & Printer Purchase
    - No update.
  - Emery Park Permanent Course
    - Phil has a new contact for the Department commissioner but has yet to reach out.
  - Funding Proposal
    - **Henry has a proposal he will present at the next meeting.**
- New Business
  - Additional Funding Proposals
    - Rob noted trying to encourage club members to attend NRE events. One of the barriers to attending is likely meet fees and travel costs. The board discussed:
      - Maybe have an option for reimbursement for travel expenses or fees.
      - Adam noted would need to set some limits on how much to provide.
      - Phil agreed that some guidelines and criteria would be needed.
      - Rob noted basic idea: \$50 reimbursement for anything with a max number of NREs.
        - Lynne asked how many members regularly attend NREs.
        - Rob noted maybe around a bit less than a dozen.
      - Possibly pay for gas or vehicle travel to event if people are carpooling.
      - **Rob will put together a proposal plan for the next meeting.**
  - 2026 Meet Schedule
    - Push to November meeting.
  - 2027 National Ranking Event
    - Rob had passed on an email to the Board from Rick Warner about BFLO joint hosting the next NRE event with ROC.
    - Dave noted that we could help volunteer to assist but no one is currently willing to take the lead on the BFLO end.
    - **Dave will respond to Rick noting that BFLO isn't able to help run the 2027 event.**
  - Nominating Committee

- Rob noted the committee should be formed before the next meeting. Consists of one board member and two non-board members.
    - Lynne noted that she is willing to do it but open to others that have not done it before.
    - **Rob will reach out to a couple of members to get potentials committee candidates together.**
  - Allegany map
    - Rob had notified ROC that they could take it over and sent the same update to the concessioner at the Park store. ROC was going to discuss at their board meeting. Phil has not heard anything from ROC or the Allegany park store.
  - Rob attended the OUSA virtual annual meeting last week. He voted for the board seats, they were uncontested.
    - Discussion about reclassifying the age competitive classes. The study group made a report to the board but nothing was actionable so this may be revisited next year.
    - Financial health of OUSA seemed pretty healthy and they are soliciting funding proposals to use up excess funds. There were a handful of funding proposals approved for various clubs for mapping and course design.
  - Henry had received an email from the Maritime contact. They were approached about hosting a national JROTC orienteering event. He was hoping we could help put it on. Timeframe was this November.
    - Rob had reached out to the contact saying that BFLO was willing to help and suggested a phone discussion. Rob has not heard anything.
  - Rob had received an email from a teacher at Mt. St Mary's Academy. They want to use some of the old maps in their class and use the permanent chestnut ridge map to teach about topography and geology.
    - Phil gave a handful of copies of last year's map hikes for the parks to Rob and the teacher will pick them up this week.
- Set November board meeting date
  - Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, remote at 7:00 PM