

Buffalo Orienteering Club Board Meeting Minutes

11/11/2025, 7:00 - 9:25 pm via Google Meet

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

Action Items in Bold

- Approve the 9/23/2025 board meeting minutes and review action items
 - **Phil still working on cash box options.**
 - **Phil still working on the Knox Farm meet report.**
 - Lynne sent in meet reports for the Learn and Practices today.
 - Dave sent the contact info for the Cazenovia Park ice rink to Lynne.
 - Dave successfully opted out of Amazon promotional emails for the business account.
- Past Events
 - Erie County Forestry Score-O, 10/4
 - Rod noted that the event went well, they had good weather, and made a slight profit.
 - Maritime showed up unexpectedly at the event.
 - Rob noted that they are now paid up for past due events and have provided additional waivers.
 - **Henry will invoice them for the Night-O event.**
Rob noted we can use a PayPal invoice rather than a check request.
 - Katy did course setting, the Lyons did vetting.
 - Knox Farm Night-O, 11/8
 - Dave noted it went well, 30 entries for a total of 54 people.
 - Good weather.
 - 5 people posted Livelox routes.
 - Air punching was not working due to an issue setting up the controls.
 - Rob asked if rolling the maps is something we should consider for other events.
 - Dave noted it may not be a good idea unless we specify that in the registration. Generally people prefer looking at them ahead of time.
 - Adam noted we could try it for a few events, decided by the meet director.
 - Lynne posted meet results to the website.
 - Simon noted he spoke to a participant at the event who expressed interest in volunteering to help out. Simon passed on contact information to the Board.
- Upcoming Events
 - Cazenovia Park Winter-O, 2/21
 - Lynne reached out to the ice rink director and has not received a response.

- She also reached out to the Tosh Collins senior center and has not received a response.
 - **Lynne will continue to look into start area hosting locations.**
 - Dave asked on status of using Shea's Seneca.
 - Lynne noted they said to check back in January and that they probably couldn't do Saturdays.
 - Rob asked about sending out a save the date email.
 - **Lynne will check on how to send one** (via mailchimp). May reach out to Jennifer if she has trouble.
- Annual Meeting
 - Discussed below in 2026 schedule discussion.
- Standing Committee Reports
 - Mapping
 - Dave noted he continues to work on Chestnut Ridge Park this fall, weather dependent.
 - Rod continuing to work on Stonehaven Preserve. Rod noted he doesn't expect there is much more updating to do and plans to go out and check things again before it gets cold.
 - Jennifer G. had the laptop and also continues to learn mapping.
 - Dave noted she need the OCAD license on the laptop.
 - Rod noted that the software should automatically release the license when you close the software. **Rod will check with Jennifer.**
 - Jim Clark expressed interest in learning. OUSA has a seminar on mapping that he has signed up for.
 - Finance
 - Henry noted that a dibbler was lost at the Knox Farm Night-O. Henry invoiced the person that lost it and they paid promptly.
 - Map Hikes
 - Phil sent part of an order to Gear for Adventure. He confirmed that it was the set that Henry invoiced them for.
 - Generally it has been pretty slow.
 - Rob asked when we should take the map hikes off the website.
 - Phil noted usually in January.
 - Website & Communications
 - Lynne is learning the process and making website updates as needed.
 - Lynne will reach out to Jennifer on the password for the email.

- Rob sent the email password and asked **for Lynne to post the July meeting minutes.**
 - Lynne asked if there is a plan cost for the website hosting.
 - **Henry will check if it is a paid for plan or a free version.**
 - Rob noted we pay a bit for domain hosting and backup.
- Membership
 - **Rob will send updated numbers in the next week or so.**
- Marketing
 - Lynne noted there were 2 pairs of people at the Night-O that were brand new and said they had a really good time.
 - Lynne reached out to Erie County Parks and they did add orienteering to their recreation page: <https://www3.erie.gov/parks/recreation>
 - They asked if we would be willing to help run an introductory orienteering course through the county parks. Something co-run with the club and park rangers.
 - Lynne is uncertain on if county parks would charge for this.
 - Henry asked if it was more of a classroom or outdoor learning.
 - Lynne said it would be something we can discuss and develop with them.
 - **Lynne will follow up with them on it and will pass on any information she gets. No objections from the Board, Phil offered to be looped in on the conversation.**
- Equipment
 - Phil noted a few of the map hike crews are low on the control squares and will give them out as needed.
 - **Phil will run through control batteries over the winter and replace low ones and may need to order more.**
 - Rob asked about a new printer.
 - Phil noted he doesn't see an issue after he fixed the cable.
 - Phil asked about a new laptop.
 - Dave noted that the main laptop is working well.
 - Adam mentioned that it would be good to have one dedicated for mapping. **Dave will check on O-CAD minimum specs for a potential new laptop.**
 - Dave mentioned it would make sense to have a tablet to lend to club members for mapping purposes and field checking. **Dave will put together a proposal for a tablet, stylus, carrying case, battery, etc. for the next meeting.**
 - **Dave mentioned he is still looking into other result programs other than OR, will try something for Cazenovia but can't promise anything.**

- Old Business
 - Map Hike cost analysis
 - **Simon will discuss with Phil on status and work on completing it.**
 - Laptop & Printer Purchase
 - See above in Equipment.
 - Emery Park Permanent Course
 - **Phil needs to get ahold of the new director of the Parks Department.**
 - Funding Proposals
 - Henry's Proposal
 - An orienteering challenge with the goal of making it fun for beginners and an additional challenge for experienced members.
 - Participants accumulate points over the season, winner could earn something like a patch.
 - Donate to local organizations for each point a participant earns.
 - Points earned by participating at events, volunteering, completing map hikes, puzzles at events, etc.
 - Simon noted we could have a couple of different organizations to donate to and participants could choose what group they want to support and compete with each other.
 - Rob noted that the Eventzee app does all of the tracking but would need upfront effort to set up.
 - Self-reporting seems to be the best way – people to post photos as proof of participation.
 - Simon and Adam are willing to help further plan this out. **The three will work out something more fleshed out and formal for the next meeting.**
 - Rob's Proposal
 - Reimburse costs or incentivize members to attend NREs.
 - Adam agrees with the idea of contributing some expenses for travel.
 - 2027 National Ranking Event
 - Dave noted we are on the OUSA advanced planning calendar for early May 2027 – Genesee County Forest on Saturday, and Chestnut Ridge on Sunday.
 - Buffalo Club obligation is to provide volunteers to Rochester to help organize and vet courses for the Sunday event.
 - Rob asked about the details on profit splitting.
 - Dave noted Rochester proposed splitting 50/50 but we can discuss with them later.
 - Nominating Committee

- **Rob will reach out to non-board members on interest.**
Lynne is set as the board member participant.
- New Business
 - 2026 Meet Schedule
 - The board discussed meet dates, generally tentative:
 - Caz Park - 2/21 - Lynne
 - Chestnut Ridge solo event – April 10 – 26 - Phil
 - Annual Meeting – 4/25
 - Cherry Blossom clue-O – tentative 4/26 - Dave
 - Learn and practice potentially dependent on discussions with County Parks but Lynne noted likely early spring – soon after the cherry blossom festival (early May).
 - Emery – 5/16 - Adam
 - Chestnut ridge event – 6/6 or 6/13 – **Henry to confirm**
 - Dave asked on interest in doing another sprint at Buff State.
 - Rob noted maybe sometime in the summer. Phil noted that he could be the meet director.
 - 8/8 or 8/15, **Phil to check with Buff State.**
 - Phil noted every other year at Knox would be good, so not having one this year.
 - Sprague Brook - 7/11 - Simon as 3 or 4-course meet.
 - Fall Learn and practice TBD in August - Lynne
 - Burrmaster/Stonehaven in September, **need a Meet d\Director**
 - Erie County Forestry – 10/3 – Rod – Score-O
 - Knox Farm Night-O – 11/7 – Dave
 - **Meet directors to update the Google Sheet at the link below as assistant meet directors and other key volunteers are recruited.**
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CTrvMkochfD7km3SUGNm_TH162Onp8VAijGig8UNU0c/edit?usp=sharing
 - **Dave to assign the electronics (start/finish) volunteers.**
 - **Dave noted he will put together a proposal based on a presentation on Attack Point** - on clubs spending more time on events that give members the ability to improve their skills. Potentially doing something weekly before a main event. Something more simple than a full event.
 - Lynne asked about utilizing the map hikes for this purpose.
 - Dave said that is a possibility.
 - Rob asked about any follow up with REI on them stocking our maps or working together on some orienteering training classes.

- **Henry will reach out to the local store and report back in January.** Adam knows someone that works there and can provide a name.
 - Rob noted he is doing a presentation for the Adirondack Mountain Club – Niagara Frontier Chapter at their May 12th meeting.
 - Dave noted being able to present YouTube videos could help. One of the new participants at the Night-O shared some links where they learned about Orienteering. **Dave will pass those links on to the Board.**
- Set January board meeting date
 - January 13, 2026 at 7:00 virtually