

## **Meet Director Notes**

Gateway Park Score-O

Fort Worth, TX

Sat., Sept. 25, 2021

Welcome to our first in-person event in well over a year! Happy National Orienteering Week! OK, it's not a Hallmark holiday. But clubs around the country will have events the last week in September.

We're starting the 2021-2022 season at Gateway Park, a family-friendly 635-acre city park located on the east side of Fort Worth immediately north of Interstate 30 and bisected by the Trinity River.

It's a multi-use park with numerous recreational facilities including baseball, softball, and soccer fields, shelters, grill, miles of hiking and mountain bike trails, and Fort Woof, the city's first off-leash dog park. At the same time, the park is also still home to some beautiful and dense stands of native trees and grasses.

All this to say that Gateway is a busy place. We won't be the only people enjoying the area and will need to be mindful of traffic on roads and trails, and multiple ball fields in use. Rowers at nearby Fort Worth Rowing Center use part of the river that is on the map as well, and they're having a regatta. (Say hi to Tom Carr if you see him over there!)

### **Event headquarters**

We'll be located at the second, small parking lot once you enter from the north gate on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. Follow signs and look for the big, white Registration tent. Portable toilets will be available nearby. There's ample open space under the trees for groups to set up tents if they wish. Both Start and Finish will be in the same general area.

### **Parking**

The parking lot we'd prefer you use is a larger one that is around a bend to your right after you pass the HQ. It is near a large sporting complex and just a short walk to our HQ area.

If the large lot is full: Buses may pass through a gate to your left after you pass the small parking lot. Continue along and around the circle and park on the right of the street facing the gate. This is where buses have parked before. For cars, there's usually ample parking to be found in one lot or another.

### **COVID-19 protocols**

NTOA is carefully watching the continuing pandemic and wants to keep both participants and volunteers safe. We've developed event protocols based on guidelines from our sport's national organizing body, Orienteering USA. NTOA reserves the right to revise them based on changing conditions.

1. **Pre-registration is required.** This will minimize the number of people and amount of time needed at Registration. (Note: We WILL be able to make changes to pre-registered entries.)
2. **Wearing a mask is required when doing business at Registration.** Please have only one person from your group at Registration. Masks are otherwise encouraged before and after your course if you're dealing closely with others.
3. **Social distancing is encouraged** (except within your own group) at all times.

Fortunately, as an outdoor adventure sport, orienteering typically finds us alone in the woods. We think it's possible to have fun and mitigate risks. Please help us do that.

### **Event details**

This is a Score-O, a departure from the classic point-point-point format. Everyone will receive the same map with all 60 or so controls listed on it. Your challenge is to find as many of them as you can within the allotted time for your course: 90 minutes for the Short or 3 hours for the Long.

You can visit the controls in any order you wish. We're usual manual paper scoring, and you'll receive a card with boxes. You must punch your card in the box that corresponds to a control. For example, if there is a bag with the number 101 and it is control #1 on your clue sheet, then you must punch square one on your card. Do not just use any square.

Each point is worth 10 points. Find as many as you can and come in UNDER your time limit. You'll lose points for every minute you're over time. We'll total up your points, and

highest score wins in one of three classes, male and female. (See event site for classes.) We will have awards!

### **Clinics**

Ralph Courtney will be on hand to present both the Boy Scouts Orienteering Merit Badge clinic, at 9 am, and an open Beginner's Clinic at 9:30 am.

### **Weather/Cautions:**

Be sure to check the weather and dress accordingly. It's starting to cool down, but always exercise caution and drink plenty of fluids. Event will be held rain or shine. Only lightning can stop us!

### **Control pick-up**

Finally, we don't have an assisting school for this event as of yet, so course setter Sheila Doyle and I are looking for help picking up bags afterwards. I'll have pizza and beverages for the pick-up crew! Drop me a note so I can plan:

[lisawernercarr@gmail.com](mailto:lisawernercarr@gmail.com).

Hope to see you soon!

Lisa Carr  
Meet Director

Notes updated Sept. 16, 2021