

Quantico Orienteering Club, Inc.
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2023

I. Call to Order

President Don Fish called the meeting to order at 7:03.

II. Roll Call

President **Don Fish**

Vice President **Charles Carrick**

Vice President **Craig Shelden**

Secretary **Beàtri Bennett**

Membership **Greg Lennon**

Mapping **Ted Good**

Immediate Past President **Jody Landers**

Vice President **Matt Smith**

Vice President **Michael Newman**

Treasurer **David Levine**

Publicity **Sharmagh Yepremian**

Director at Large **Aaron Linville**

Director at Large **Michael Dickey**

Others in attendance: Amy Loudon, Sidney Sachs, Jon Torrance, Kathleen Lennon

III. Officers & Directors Reports

1. Secretary report – Beàtri Bennett

The meeting minutes for the 21 June meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. No comments or changes were requested.

Charles Carrick made a motion to approve the 21 June meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Aaron Linville. There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

2. Treasurer report – David Levine

David Levine shared the treasurer's report with expenditures and revenue reconciled through 30 Aug.

Payment of the sanction fees to OUSA for the National Meet, was made in July. The donation to Dumfries was made and the grants to applicable travelling team members were paid. Shipping issues with the QOC jerseys were resolved and the payments sorted out.

Matt Smith made a motion to approve the treasurer report. The motion was seconded by Craig Shelden. There were no objections, and the motion was approved.

ACTION:

- David Levine to continue research on options for surplus cash/CDs and target November to have an account set up.
- David Levine will remove Karla Hulett as a signatory and add Beàtri Bennett.

3. Maryland VP report – Craig Shelden

Craig Shelden shared his report and gave updates on past and upcoming events.

Past events:

Ward Farm Park Dunkirk – 71 Wufoo registrations -- > 84 Starts (teams).

Clopper Lake – postponed due to tropical storm Ophelia.

Challenges/Long lead for upcoming events:

Great Falls or *Seneca Creek* – Greg Lennon has not received feedback from Great Falls despite numerous calls and emails.

Decision is to use Seneca Creek. Kathleen Lennon mentioned to put out Halloween decorations on some of the controls.

Patapsco Avalon – smaller footprint. Need to assure venue of limited numbers. Recommendation: advanced courses only, no group registrations, members only, max of 100 (or what the park will tolerate, usually 175).

Little Bennett – Obtain permission from Cedarbrook Church to use parking lot. Shuttle is needed to south-end of LB. Date deconflicted with Scouting event – Klondike Derby.

Bumble – Relocate to Rosaryville (from Fran Uhler Natural Area / Bowie State University)

Kings Landing / NRMA – Event Director is TBD. Need shuttle.

UMD College Park – sensitive areas need to be considered.

Susquehanna Stumble at Lake Needwood.

ACTION: None

4. Virginia VP report – Charles Carrick

Charles Carrick provided updates on past and upcoming events.

Past events:

Lake Fairfax (Intro to O) – Worked well for Intro to O and several new members were recruited. Canopy G and the Large Shelter are both workable admin locations. QOC has a solid relationship with the park and the current manager.

Lake Accotink – 171 starts.

Jump to Orange at Occoquan – 48 trained. Went well and received positive feedback from David Randle. Recommendations for future Jump to Orange events:

- Pre-registration window earlier (start three weeks before event and end one week before?)
- Don't plan the event on the same day as a local Adventure Race.
- Combine with regular event as in 2023 or with White and Yellow same day as in 2022?
- Combine with some sort of beginner training to ensure we have only people ready for Orange trying to "Jump to Orange"?
- Communicate the time commitment to trainees (e.g., the training will take about 2-3 hours).

Occoquan—225 starts. Fun courses with a couple of new control placements at Occoquan.

Upcoming events:

Fountainhead West – course concept for this year's FHW event:

- Volunteer set-up back at Bull Run Marina (BRM),
- W/Y S/F at BRM,
- Orange-Blue bus to Wolf Run Shoals Rd (WRS) with remote start at foot bridge over Wolf Run,
- Orange, Red, Blue finish at BRM,
- Brown and Green finish at Kegley House and bus back to BRM.

Ball's Bluff – new requirements to access Ball's Bluff Elementary School (BBES) parking lot for Edwards landing events.

PWFP - Turkey Run (Night O) – septic field construction impacts start, finish, W/Y design, but does not preclude December events.

PWFP - Turkey Run (Day O)

Fountainhead East – Francis Hogle hosted introductory Zoom session for the course-setter course. Classes every several weeks through mid-December.

BLM Eastern States audit of Meadowood Field Station, including QOC event at Meadowood (Camp Wilson) 2020 was successfully completed.

ACTION: None.

5. Membership, Website, Registration, & Communication – Greg Lennon
Membership and revenue are up. The membership software annual contract has been renewed.

Registration – Greg requested that Event Directors and VPs please provide advance notice to him if an event has unusual/different event fee needs so that he has time to make the changes on-line.

Volunteer Sign Ups (via SignUpGenius) has been re-activated for season and remains optional.

Website – Drupal 10 website work continues.

A discussion ensued about 'walk-ups' showing up at day of event and expect to participate. There is also a liability since the 'walk-ups' do not complete a waiver and therefore not covered by insurance.

ACTION: Don will follow up with Greg to work on a policy.

6. Publicity – Sharmagh Yepremian
Social Media – Facebook and Instagram posts are picking back up due to the 2023-2024 season start.

Post event meet-ups/Mappy Hour – events are well attended and will continue for this season. The next Mappy Hour will be held on 11 November in Bethesda, see the QOC website for details.

ACTION: None.

7. Mapping – Ted Good
Wheaton – the new master plan has major changes to the trail system. Glenn Pastel and Nadim Ahmed are working on getting the trail changes made.

Gallaudet University – Mark Mace working with Nadim Ahmed on map updates. Details on this map has been added to the map baseline file.

Generals Corridor County Park – Ted Good mapped this as a potential model area for Bacon Ridge, on the same digital file as Bacon Ridge and added it to the Baseline map list.

Seneca Creek – Sam Listwak provided update on trail changes to Nadim Ahmed. Michael Dickey is also making updates, mostly trails and rootstocks mostly and some vegetation updates. Changes are being coordinated with Nadim Ahmed.

Lake Fairfax – Justin Brown made lots of updates (mostly trail) for the summer Beginner training session. Charles Carrick made additional changes for advanced course.

Lake Accotink – Mark Thomsen continues to re-do Lake Accotink from Lidar.

Fran Uhler/Bowie – Still awaiting map from Dave Linthicum. He is waiting for the bridge across the river to be completed. There is no timetable on when the bridge will be completed.

Mason Neck – still waiting on changes from Mark Thomsen.

Morven Park – Sam Listwak made some changes before last year's event.

Little Bennett – Sam Listwak made some changes and will transfer the file to Ted Good.

ACTION: Ted Good to form a committee to review and propose which maps to use for the second A meet.

IV. **Other Business**

1. Volunteer Subcommittee Report and Proposal (Sharmagh Yepremian)

Don Fish, Kathleen Lennon, Sharmagh Yepremian, Beàtri Bennett, and Martins Jonass met to discuss how to ramp up volunteerism within QOC. We planned to have a volunteer booth at two events this year (one in VA and one in MD) with a banner and table (separate from registration) to draw interest regarding volunteering with QOC. The table and banner both were approved for purchase. Kathleen designed an amazing banner with a QR code that takes people to the new Volunteer page (<https://www.qocweb.org/content/volunteer>). The banner will be present at every QOC event and will be a part of the standard kit for each state.

Don Fish mentioned that the volunteer banner will be displayed at every event.

A Volunteer Outreach budget of \$5,000 was proposed. Greg mentioned that we have not yet approved the 2023/24 budget and this request should be part of the overall budget review/approval.

ACTION: Don Fish will re-send the budget and also schedule a separate meeting to review and approve the 2023/24 budget. [Completed – budget meeting was held on 11 October 2023.]

2. QOC Mapping Priorities for Winter of 23/24 (Ted Good)

Mapping needs are contingent upon the venues selected for the A meets.

Options are:

- Bacon Ridge, or
- Fran Uhler/Bowie.

ACTION: Ted Good will work with Charles Carrick and Jon Torrance to propose mapping areas for future National Events.

Don proposed to follow Ted Good's suggestion to use Bacon Ridge, Fran Uhler/Bowie, University of Maryland for US Nationals in Spring 2026 and put it on the OUSA planning calendar.

Greg Lennon made a motion to approve holding an A meet, and to submit an application for holding the US Nationals at Bacon Ridge, Fran Uhler/Bowie and University of Maryland in Spring 2026. The motion was seconded by Jody Landers. Ted Good opposes the motion. The motion carries as proposed and was approved.

ACTION: Greg Lennon suggested that we follow Matt Smith's suggestion to consider pros and cons for making the A meet a World Ranking Event (WRE).

3. Event Directors Training Dates

We need to determine whether Heidi Onkst is available to provide Event Director training.

ACTION: Don Fish will follow up with Heidi Onkst on her availability.

4. Permanent Courses – Little Bennett, Patapsco, Seneca Creek

Seneca Creek (via Mike Newman) requested QOC's help in setting up a permanent course at Seneca Creek. The timeframe is not clear at this time.

ACTION: Mike Newman will keep the board updated on Seneca Creek's timeframe on when they are ready for QOC to set up a permanent course.

5. Miscellaneous

Harry Jones has generously offered a monetary donation to buy new compasses and compass cases for the club. Don Fish asked that he work with Jody Landers for the purchases.

ACTION: Jody Landers will research which compasses to buy and send suggestions to the VPs for review/approval.

Jody Landers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Charles Carrick. There were no objections, and the motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10.05 pm.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 January 2024 @ 7 pm via Zoom.

Minutes submitted: Beàtri Bennett