

Quantico Orienteering Club, Inc.
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2026

Call to Order

President Don Fish called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Roll Call

President Don Fish	Vice President Dennis Doherty
Vice President Aaron Linville	Vice President Michael Newman
Vice President David & Reiko Rager	Treasurer David Levine
Secretary Beàtri Bennett	Volunteer/Social Outreach Sharmagh Yepremian
Membership Greg Lennon	Director at Large Matthew Knight
Mapping Ted Good	Director at Large Craig Shelden
Immediate Past President Jody Landers	

Others in attendance: Amy Loudon, Francis Hogle, and Jon Torrance.

I. Officers & Directors Reports

— **Secretary report** – Beàtri Bennett

The meeting minutes for the 10 December 2025 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting.

Jody Landers made a motion to approve the 10 December meeting minutes. Aaron Linville seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried.

— **Treasurer report** – David Levine

David Levine shared the treasurer's report with expenditures and revenue reconciled through 29 March 2026 inclusive of costs associated with the Nationals.

- Incurred expenses associated with the cancelled Rosaryville, Hemlock, and Seneca Creek events could not be recovered, as the events were unable to be rescheduled.
- The Rogaine event operated at a loss due to extended shuttle service; donations to Austere Medical Professionals (AMP) and The Friends of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks; and the cost of providing food to participants. It was suggested that the registration fee be increased by approximately \$10 next season to help offset these costs.
- Mike Newman reported that most Maryland parks have increased their fees in response to 2025 budget cuts. Greg Lennon observed that entrance fee collection appears to rely largely on the honor system (particularly at Gambrill State Park) and questioned the extent of park oversight. Mike Newman confirmed that entrance fees were collected at Gambrill State Park and that David Levine submitted payment to the park.

- QOC realized an approximate \$11,000 profit from the Nationals event. (OUSA per-start fees for local events were not assessed, as NRE sanctioning fees are charged in lieu of those fees.) Dennis Doherty suggested that QOC members be offered a discounted registration fee for future National events.
- Don Fish reported that QOC has rechartered with OUSA. The next financial report will include a payment of \$9,784 to OUSA for the prior year's local events, calculated based on 4,882 participants at \$2 per start, plus a \$20 fee.

ACTION:

- David Levine will update the Budget to move \$41,000 from the *Local Meet Expenses* budget line to a separate budget line for *A Meet/Nationals Expenses*.

Jody Landers made a motion to accept the financial report with the caveat that David Levine will move all expenses related to Nationals to a separate budget line. Craig Shelden seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Jon Torrance inquired as to whether donations to the teams have been made. The budget includes \$2,000 to *Grants-USOC* and \$1,000 to *Grants-Individuals* (QOC members), but donations have not been made.

Don Fish will add the donation discussion to the next Board meeting agenda.

Jon Torrance suggested that donation amounts be set during QOC's August budget cycle and communicated to the USOC teams, with distribution occurring the following Fall, allowing the teams to plan their budgets accordingly.

— **Virginia VP report** – Aaron Linville and Dennis Doherty

Dennis Doherty provided updates on past and upcoming events as well as permitting.

Past events

Fountainhead East – 186 starts (261 participants)

- Low DNF rate – 10%.

Manassas – 156 starts (189 participants)

- Aaron Linville was both event director and course setter!
- Attendance was limited to ~200 participants although the park could easily accommodate 50 more people. This was QOC's first event back in Manassas (thanks to Dennis Doherty), and efforts were made to ensure a positive impression.
- 30 NJROTC attended in preparation for their championship.
- Low DNF rate – 8%.

Prince William Forest Park / Bumble – 109 starts (149 participants)

- After several reschedules, the Bumble event was successfully held!
- Low DNF rate – 7%.
- Attendance was limited due to Palm Sunday, spring break, and the prior week's Nationals.

Kincheloe, PWFP Turkey Run

- Both events were re-scheduled and cancelled again due to weather and safety concerns. Despite significant efforts in re-planning, final cancellation was made for safety reasons.
- Lost ~\$180 for the porta-potties at Kincheloe and Greg Lennon processed numerous refunds. Dennis Doherty changed the porta-potty vendor to one that will not charge a penalty for timely cancellations.

Activities/Notes

- The VA events for this season are on track to generate approximately \$8,000 in profit.
- The VA storage unit price increased to \$130 per month.
- We received positive feedback from the Fountainhead Park manager on the permanent courses.
- An individual has expressed interest in the Hemlock permanent course and is working with QOC and park representatives to explore the possibility of restoring or improving it. The course, which was established approximately 10–15 years ago, is currently in a dilapidated condition. The park has shown interest in the project, and a potential volunteer may be willing to contribute significant labor and possibly assist with associated costs. Dennis Doherty noted that the effort remains in the fact-finding phase and that additional details will be shared as plans develop.

Upcoming Events

Event Directors and Course Setters have been assigned to all upcoming events.

ACTION:

- Don Fish asked Dennis Doherty/Aaron Linville to follow up with JROTC groups to ensure they provide a complete roster (including bus drivers) for Quantico base access.

— **Maryland VP report** – David and Reiko Rager

David and Reiko Rager provided updates on past and upcoming events.

Past events

Patapsco Avalon – 119 starts

- Only Advanced courses were offered.
- Re-scheduled from 11 Jan.

Gambrill Rogaine – 3-hr 68 starts, 8-hr 46 starts

- Austere Medical Professionals (AMP) provided support.

Rosaryville / Mid-Atlantic Championships, Seneca Creek, and McKeldin

- All three events were cancelled due to weather. McKeldin was cancelled for the 2nd year in a row.

Activities/Notes

- Kings Landing will be included in next season's planning, as it was not on this year's schedule, with Bowie/Fran Uhler under consideration for the Bumble.

Upcoming Events

Wheaton – Jeff Bloom will serve as Event Director for his first event.

Blockhouse Point

Patuxent / Chase – we'll celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Chase.

Virtual DC Score O – Gary Smith will update the map, David Rager will do the course design for a TBD date over the summer.

Francis Hogle will be the course setter for the DVOA Mid-Atlantics on 13 December at Iron Hill Park.

— **Membership, Website, Registration, & Communication** – Greg Lennon

Website & Groups.io E-Forum – The new Drupal 11 website rebuild is ongoing. Greg Lennon incorporated feedback where feasible and is preparing for a summer release.

The 2026 US Nationals website (uschamps.org) has been deployed, is currently being maintained, and will be archived following the conclusion of the event.

- The [Results webpage](#) includes results by age class and by course, as well as links to RouteGadget, Attackpoint, WinSplits, LIVELOX and all known photo collections from the event.
- QOC's Google Workspace is the repository for QOC documents.
 - The *US Nationals 2026* directory contains folders for Overall, Day 1, Day 2, and Day 3, and has been shared with all core organizers.
 - Greg Lennon requested placing the final budget/accounting in the Overall folder when completed.
 - A compiled and anonymized feedback/comments document (separated by Overall/Day 1/Day 2/Day 3) is also available in this shared folder.

The legacy (D6) Drupal website's Event Results page now includes a link to each event's Livelox page.

Registration/Announcements –

- Greg Lennon raised a question regarding whether event announcements should continue to state that participants must return by 3pm/course closing time or instead specify a return requirement of either three hours after start or 3pm, whichever is earlier. A discussion followed regarding safety implications for participants remaining on course beyond three hours without a means of communication. The outcome was to retain the current policy requiring participants to be out of the woods by 3pm, while encouraging participants to carry phones (preferably smartphones) for safety and contact purposes. Greg Lennon will also explore the use of tracking devices for participants remaining on course for extended periods.

- QOC jersey and jacket orders will be collected in April (subject to getting accurate cost estimates, including tariffs and shipping).

Communication –

- A teacher at the St. James Academy private school in Monkton, MD, is introducing orienteering as part of instruction. A preliminary map of the school has been created by Greg Lennon and is currently being field-checked by the students. Jody Landers will give a presentation at the school on 7 April, with anticipated student participation at the 19 April Wheaton event.
- At the invitation of Dina Beatty (QOC member, volunteer at the recent Nationals, and PE instructor at Hoover Middle School in Potomac, MD), Don Fish, accompanied by Greg and Kathleen Lennon, attended the school's International Family Fitness Night on 26 March. Don Fish designed a short course using a map prepared by Mike Dvorsky; Greg and Kathleen Lennon set the course. The event was very successful, with approximately 20–30 participants. A couple of families expressed interest in attending a QOC event.
- Greg Lennon noted that if members know of schools or events where QOC could promote orienteering and reach newcomers, the club can produce maps relatively quickly.

— **Publicity** – Sharmagh Yepremian

Post event meet-ups/Mappy Hour – Post-event socials will resume in mid-April. The 'Thank You' mappy hour for Nationals volunteer is TBD and the end of the year social is tentatively scheduled for 6 or 7 June.

Social Media

Facebook – 2.6K followers (organic growth) – no growth since last meeting.

Instagram: 1.9K+ followers (organic growth) – no growth since last meeting.

Facebook and Instagram activity was much slower compared to September - November months due to several canceled events. Interestingly, we continue to see more engagement from non-followers compared to followers. Our increased interaction with adventure racing organizations and participants has also contributed to growth in interest and viewership. QOC is not just talking to our audience, we are consistently reaching beyond it, getting the attention of people outside of our regular crowd.

Ted Good's humorous video capturing 'traveling controls' went viral.

(<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1EgJUizseL/?mibextid=wwXlfr>)

— **Mapping** – Ted Good

OCAD has discontinued the OCAD Sketch tool and replaced it with an OCAD Mapping Tool App. The Sketch tool was used by several mappers and course setters to display maps on a phone and use GPS for location identification. The new OCAD App provides the same

functionality while also supporting more comprehensive OCAD drafting capabilities on mobile devices and does not require licensing.

Mapping updates are:

Ted Good

- *Bacon Ridge*: Final field check of Bacon Ridge for NRE.
- *University of Maryland*: Major updates in area used for NRE and fixed errors in gap sizes.
- *PWF Camp 1*: Started work in the North area. Camp 1 will be used for the next NRE.
- *Avalon*: Drafting updates identified by Kim Jepsen.

Nadim Ahmed

- *Wheaton*: Updating the Wheaton map where he will be course setting.
- *Bethesda*: minor updates to downtown Bethesda map.

Justin Brown

- *Balls Bluff*: Making updates while course setting.

Aaron Linville

- *Manassas*: Making updates while course setting.

Sam Listwak

- *Little Bennett*: Converted the map to the current symbol set and is examining LiDAR for vegetation updates.

Gary & Ginny Quam

- *Fountain Head*: Continue to update the Western most area of Fountain Head that previously had never been field checked while testing the new OCAD app.

The club has contracted Jon Torrance to continue mapping PWF. Jon Torrance will focus on completing the inside scenic loop first (Turkey Run Ridge) then move to the Southeast area of Camp 1/4 map.

Don Fish provided an update on the Izaak Walton League. Due to the National event and weather-related delays, he plans to reconnect with the League during the next mapping season to assess their continued interest. Don previously sent a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the club's proposal for review but has not yet received a response.

ACTION:

- Don Fish will follow up with the Izaak Walton League to ensure they respond to his communication.

Greg Lennon asked whether school maps, such as the one for St. James Academy, should be included in QOC's map vault. Ted Good confirmed that school maps should be added to the club's map inventory.

— **US Champs Recap** – Don Fish/Ted Good

Don Fish reported that approximately 100 volunteers contributed to the success of the National event. Lexie Brown is coordinating volunteer swag bags, and Sharmagh Yepremian

is organizing a volunteer appreciation social. The Board also discussed the importance of considering volunteer compensation for future events.

Participant feedback from the Nationals event was overwhelmingly positive, with only minor logistical issues reported. Overall, the event was considered highly successful. Austere Medical Professionals provided on-site support, assisting six individuals on Saturday and seven on Sunday. Although preparations were made for a potential search-and-rescue operation, no such incident occurred.

Some members expressed disappointment with the absence of recreational courses. Don explained that this was a deliberate decision, as offering recreational courses would likely have increased attendance by more than 100 participants and significantly increased logistical requirements and costs, including transportation and sanitation facilities. He also noted that QOC offers events nearly every weekend, providing members with regular opportunities to participate in recreational courses and club activities.

For future large events, the recommendation is to provide one porta-potty per 100 participants.

One key lesson learned was to provide printed model maps in addition to making them available online.

Don Fish concluded by thanking all volunteers for their contributions to the event's success.

II. Other Business

— PWF Map Sharing – Craig Shelden

Since 2007, Greg Lennon has provided shape files to Prince William Forest Park to help ensure QOC events avoid environmentally and culturally sensitive areas. The park has provided new guidance on its "avoid" and "exclude" area designations and requests access to QOC event maps to verify that controls are not placed in excluded areas.

Craig Shelden expressed appreciation for the park's willingness to collaborate with QOC. Greg Lennon recommended continuing to share relevant information with PWFP, and the Board agreed that QOC should do so to the extent possible to maintain its strong relationship with the park, which remains highly supportive of club activities.

Jody Landers made a motion to authorize sharing specified map features with the park authorities at Prince William Forest based on the cooperative relationship that we've developed over the years. Ted Good seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried. Craig Shelden abstained, citing his role as PWF's advocate.

Greg Lennon suggested reviewing existing MOAs/MOUs to identify language that could be incorporated into the proposed sharing agreement.

ACTION:

- Dennis Doherty will review the MOA/MOU documents to identify relevant information.
- Ted Good will send the current PWF map to the park, and the OCAD to Craig Shelden.

— **Plastic Map Cases – Matt Knight**

Matt Knight expressed concern regarding QOC's environmental practices, specifically the club's use of disposable plastic map cases. Several alternatives were discussed, including developing QOC-branded reusable map cases, encouraging participants to reuse existing map cases, and leaving map cases unsealed so they can be returned at registration for reuse at future events. The option of using Tyvek paper, which does not require a map case, was also raised.

ACTION:

- Matt Knight will research reusable map case options and report back to the Board, including input from Valerie Meyer.

Greg Lennon made a motion to charge Matthew Knight with \$250 to begin with, to explore re-usable, unbranded map cases to potentially find a suitable replacement for the disposable plastic cases. Michael Newman seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Ted Good proposed that we use the Tyvek paper for one event to gauge interest from attendees. Don Fish will follow up with Valerie Meyer on logistics.

— **Water on NRE course – Matt Knight**

This agenda item was not discussed.

— **Anonymous Donation – Don Fish**

A QOC member has offered an anonymous donation designated for a specific club need. Don Fish noted that the club is financially solvent and does not have an immediate need for additional funds. The donor indicated a willingness to continue funding items such as compasses and whistles, while preferring that a larger donation be directed toward a specific request.

Don Fish announced his retirement from the Club Presidency, having served in the role for six years. He will continue to serve on the Board as Immediate Past President.

Jody Landers requested nominations for the Club Presidency and the Nominating Committee. Members considering resignation should inform the current Nominating Committee, consisting of Jody Landers and Don Fish.

Board members should submit budget requests to David Levine as soon as possible. The 2026/27 budget will be discussed at the next meeting.

III. Adjourn

Jody Landers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Aaron Linville seconded the motion. There were no objections. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10.06 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 10 June 2026 @ 7 pm via Zoom.

Minutes submitted: Beàtri Bennett