

# DELAWARE VALLEY ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

**NOTE: Registration form and online access will be available 1/27/2024**

**To: All Scouts, Venturers, Scout Masters, Advisors, Leaders, & Committee Members**

Are you and your unit ready to test your map reading and problem solving abilities? Are you ready to work on the map and compass requirements for rank or award requirements or the Orienteering merit badge? Why not try **ORIENTEERING**, a cross country map and compass adventure designed to test the map reading ability, compass skills, and outdoor savvy of any unit regardless of size or experience.

On Saturday **May 4th, 2024**, the **35<sup>th</sup> annual Scott - Mid-Atlantic Scout Orienteering Championships (S-MASOC)** is being held through the efforts of the Delaware Valley Orienteering Association and French Creek State Park. **Scouts and Scout Leaders of ALL AGES ARE WELCOME.** There will be seven courses with four distinct levels of difficulty so that every scout or leader should encounter a challenge suited to his or her capabilities. The event will be held on a map that has been mapped to International Orienteering Federation (IOF) standards. All maps will be returned after the last starts for the event.

**Pre-registration is required for the event.**  
**See registration definition and deadlines on Page 2 of this document.**

**Camping** is available at French Creek. **Call 1-888-727-2757 7am-5pm Monday to Saturday.** First come first served basis. We recommend you call 1-888-727-2757 and reserve one now if you want one of the private sites. These are located just north of Scott's Run. Note: the Brush Hill Campground is designated for family camping, not for group use. This means that groups are limited to 5 people per site, and the regular family camping rates apply.

**To register for the event send the S-MASOC35 registration form and full payment.**

## REGISTER:

**STEP 1** Register for the event by sending the S-MASOC35 finalized Registration form to [FRANKDVOA@aol.com](mailto:FRANKDVOA@aol.com) by registration date deadlines.

**Receipt of this email defines your registration date.**

**STEP 2 Send HARD COPY Registration form (no changes from emailed form) with full payment per below. **Your group is not fully registered until payment is received.****

**Make check payment payable to:**

**DVOA**

**Mail payment to:**

**DVOA S-MASOC35  
c/o Mary Frank  
14 Lake Drive  
SPRING CITY, PA 19475-2721**

**Email: [FrankDVOA@aol.com](mailto:FrankDVOA@aol.com)**

**Cell Phone: 610-310-4675**

**Make sure to enclose registration form and check.**

# DVOA'S S-MASOC35 Team of volunteers are looking forward to seeing you all in the woods at French Creek State Park Saturday May 4th, 2024!

Mark Frank  
Event Director  
Course Setter  
Email: [Orienteer7@aol.com](mailto:Orienteer7@aol.com)

Mary Frank  
2020 Registrar  
Email: [FrankDVOA@aol.com](mailto:FrankDVOA@aol.com)

Ed Scott  
Event Director Emeritus

## KEY DATES:

**Registration Opens –January 27th, 2024**

ASAP.....If Camping then secure a camping permit at French Creek if you desire a separate campsite for your troop. You probably will want to use group tenting sites, not general family camping sites. These are obtained by calling 1-888-727-2757.

**Note: Camping registration is not done through French Creek State Park.**

## **REGISTRATION DEADLINES:**

**Registration is defined as DVOA having received properly completed official registration forms and payment. DVOA cannot control the mail. First fully received first fully registered.**

**Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup>** Registration received by this email date will be guaranteed a patch.

**Monday April 1<sup>st</sup>** Registration received by this email date pay \$9.00 per participant fee.  
->NO PATCH Guaranteed

**Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>** Registrations received by email after April 1<sup>st</sup> and on or before this date pay \$13 per participant .  
->NO PATCH Guaranteed

## **12 AM ET Saturday April 13th -Registration is closed**

Registrations received by email after this date will be returned unless communication with the registrar Mary Frank 610-310-4675 has been completed by phone and a **return email authorization from Mary to accept the entry has been received.**

**(Bring this authorization email with you to registration on day of event)**

DVOA: Founded in 1967

Office: 14 Lake Drive, Spring City, PA 19475 Contact: Mary Frank Phone: 610.792.0502 Email: [frankdvoa@aol.com](mailto:frankdvoa@aol.com)

Member: OUSA (Orienteering USA – National Governing Body of Orienteering in the U.S. and USOC Group “C” Member)

OUSA is a member of the IOF (International Orienteering Federation)

## **READ BEFORE YOU REGISTER**

- DVOA will not be coordinating camping with Scouts and French Creek State Park.
  - DVOA will supply each competing scout/leader with a map. (previously one map per group) One epunch per group/individual
  - Loss of an epunch device will cost the scout or scout group \$70/ea unit not returned.
  - **No additions or course changes can be made after 4/12/24 late registration deadline.**
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- Start time list will be issued prior to the event by email to all participating troops.
  - Registration is accepted only when registration form and funds have been received.
  - Troops will be notified by email if registration is accepted (form and funds received)
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- Packet pick-up will begin at 8:45 am and **should be done by only one scout leader.**
  - There will be group general instructions prior to first starts near registration.
  - Port-O-Johns will be offered but will not be cleaned during the event.
  - Starts are expected to begin at **9:45am** and run through at least Noon.
  - The afternoon score event instructions will start around 1:30pm near registration. Mass start around 2pm.
  - DVOA will not supply refreshments before or after event and no water on the courses. Please bring your own water and food.
  - Please bring pop-up tents in case of rain. There are no pavilions in the area.
  - **The morning event award ceremony will start at approximately 3:15pm at the registration area immediately following the finish of the score event.**
  - **If you cannot stay for awards please note that awards will not be mailed but can be picked-up at the DVOA's office or by coordinating pick-up at a future DVOA event.**
  - **Full results will be emailed to the troop contact within 10 days after the event.**

**THE 35<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**  
**The SCOTT MID-ATLANTIC SCOUT ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**Saturday MAY 4th, 2024**

This data will also be available at <http://scoutorienteering.com> or  
through the event link on DVOA's site at [www.dvoa.org](http://www.dvoa.org) after 1/26/2024

**Categories:** Scouts will compete with other scouts of the same rank. Seven courses will be offered.

- Course 1** Cub Scout Dens, Daises, Webelo Den groups. Dens and Brownies can participate in groups of 2 or more with an adult advisor who should **follow** his or her group, not lead it. **(OUSA-White course)**  
**Groups of more than 2 should register as a group of 3 on the registration form.**
- Course 2** Girl Scout Brownies, Juniors and Scouts (New Scouts & Tenderfoot Scouts) will do this course. Scouts run in pairs *without adults*. Scouts on this course with adults will be listed as "NC", i.e. non-competitive and not eligible for awards. **(OUSA-White course)**
- Course 3** Second Class and/or First Class Boys with *no adults*; Girl Scout Cadets can have an adult trailing, but not communicating with the girls except in case of emergency or injury. All compete in pairs **(OUSA- Long White course)**.
- Course 4** Star, Life, and/or Eagle Scouts; younger Venturers; Girl Seniors: all compete in pairs. **(OUSA Yellow course)**
- Course 5** Older Venturers who compete in pairs and Leaders. This course is separate from course 4. Leaders may also compete on this course in groups two or three or alone. Leaders should also pre-register to compete, pay the applicable participant fee, and may receive a patch for early registration. Leaders will be eligible for awards. **(OUSA Yellow course)**
- Course 6** **Advanced Scout - Compete alone (OUSA Orange Course)**
- Course 7** **Advanced Adult/Leader (OUSA Brown Course)**  
Advanced, experienced orienteers of any rank: **Scout, Venturer, or Scouter, participate alone** on a typical OUSA Advance course. Scouts, Venturers and all Leaders need to be skilled enough to compete alone to be eligible for awards on this course. Registrations we receive showing pairs of youth on these courses will be split up and assigned separate start times. Leaders in pairs will not be eligible for awards. The start interval on these courses is usually 5 minutes, so very little "following" is possible.

**There is no charge for leaders that are not going out on a course.**

**PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER YOUR YOUTH ON THE PROPER COURSE. IT IS EMBARRASSING AND CONFUSING AT AWARDS TIME TO FIND YOUTH THAT HAVE COMPETED ON A COURSE DESIGNED FOR YOUNGER AND LESS EXPERIENCED SCOUTS.**

**Registration Information:**

- ✓ **All participants must be pre-registered and prepaid.**
- ✓ Event patches are guaranteed for "Registered" by Friday March 22, 2024 participants.
- ✓ **The cost of the event is \$9.00/youth or participating leader with registrations received by email on or before Monday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.**
- ✓ **The cost for registrations received by email after April 1<sup>st</sup> and on or prior to Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> is \$13.00 per participant.**
- ✓ **If you missed the late registration deadline of Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> call Mary Frank at 610-310-4675 before emailing form or sending payment and form. If you email after 4/12/24 without calling and receiving a response your check will not be cashed and there will be no maps or start times available on event day for your group.**
- ✓ Each Troop may have **one** three-person team per course to allow for odd numbers. Course 1 allows for daises and cub groups larger than 3. Register as 3. A maximum of 3 maps will be supplied for groups on Course 1 larger than 3.

### Timeline on the day of the event:

- ✓ Access gates open at approximately 8am to pool area of park. Event signs from park entrance.
- ✓ Registration opens at 8:45am
- ✓ Beginner instruction near registration begins at 9am and starts over every 15 minutes until 10am.
- ✓ The start times of each individual team on their course will be determined by the entry date of their troop and noted with the packet picked up at registration. Start times will also be emailed to troop.
- ✓ First starts times will begin at 9:45 AM and go until at least Noon.
- ✓ The afternoon Score event instruction start at ~1:30pm near registration. Mass start at ~2pm.
- ✓ Award ceremony for the morning courses begins at ~ 3:15pm at registration area.
- ✓ Full results will be emailed within 10 days after the event.
- ✓ If unable to stay for awards they can be picked up at DVOA's office or at a future DVOA event.

★ **START TIMES:** are assigned in the order the entry is fully received.

★ **AWARDS:** Awards will be made to the top 1st through 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams on each cross-country course.

★ **REGISTRATION:** In order to help in our advance planning, we are asking for only the number of teams prior to the event. Pre-register using the mail-in pdf form provided. Show the number indicating the number of girls/boys on that team ( 2 or if necessary 3). Only one team of 3 per course is allowed. Courses 6 & 7 compete alone and should show a 1 for each entry. **Don't forget to tell us if you are a BSA-B, BSA-G, Crew, or GSUSA unit by putting them as a prefix to your troop number in the form.**

★ **AT THE ON-SITE REGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP:** You will receive start "ticket" envelopes with unit information and start times listed. This envelope will include an electronic device that will be used to record each control visited. Each epunch device has a unique serial number and this is assigned to the participating group. **Participants should neatly print their names on the back of the "ticket" and must bring the ticket to the start at their designated start time on the ticket. Those reporting to the start without their ticket will not be started.**

**Each epunch device has a string with a loop attached that should be worn around the wrist to avoid losing the device. (When properly secured it is nearly impossible to lose the epunch.) These epunches must be returned at the finish at the end of the morning's competition. Loss of an epunch will cost the participating group's troop an additional \$70 per unit.** Note: In the 5 years since DVOA fully adopted epunching we have not lost an epunch. If your troop has unused Epunches in your packet please have a leader return these to the Finish area before the end of the morning event.

★ **TWO UNIT REGISTRATIONS:** Often two types of units are registered together such as a Webelo den and a Boy Scout troop, or Girl Scout Troop of Cadets and Juniors, etc. **Please use separate registration forms. You can make one payment.**

★ **START:** Participating groups should be at the start line at least 10 minutes prior to their assigned start time. Walk to the start from registration will be less than 10 minutes. We **can't easily assign new start times** as start times will be filled allowing for social distancing. **Please add your youth's name(s) to their start ticket (envelope) stub for awards purposes.** Do not make any other changes to the ticket unless they have been cleared at registration. **Competing adult leaders should indicate "Male" or "Female" on their start ticket for awards.**

★ **PAYMENT:** Checks can be made payable to "**DVOA**" or "**Delaware Valley Orienteering Association**".

★ **BEHAVIOR:** The Delaware Valley Orienteering Association is responsible for providing good courses, accurate maps, and fair competition. Leaders are responsible for proper discipline of their youth. Participants must not remove any of the control markers or punching devices (manual or electronic) before, during or after the event. Participants should in no way hamper the completion of any course participant. Removal or destruction of event equipment or actions which hamper the completion of a course is unfair to other units and will result in the full disqualification of the offending unit's participating teams. A unit disqualification means forfeiture of all eligible awards for that unit.

**Leaders should make this point absolutely clear to all participants before traveling to the event.**

★ **PARKING AREA:** There are signs within the park directing you to the parking and registration area. The signs are orange and white with black arrows. The direction markers will start at both main park entrances on PA Route 345. There is plenty of parking for buses and cars within a minute or two of registration. Please space out appropriately.

★ **REFUNDS:** Because the courses are preprinted on the maps, we cannot refund any registrations, however, if you have teams that did not attend, be sure to pick up their maps after 2pm at the registration area.

- ★ **EQUIPMENT to BRING WITH YOU:** Each team or individual participant should have a compass for the event. A pen or pencil to write participants names on the start ticket(epunch envelope). A wristwatch if they plan to compete on the afternoon Score event.
- ★ **QUESTIONS?** You may email the registrar Mary Frank at [frankdvoa@aol.com](mailto:frankdvoa@aol.com), **but please read this document first. All of the frequently asked questions are answered here.** Remember DVOA is in charge of the Orienteering. Questions regarding other activities and facilities (**except camping**) at the park should be directed to the park.
- ★ **Electronic Equipment by Participants:** The use of Electronic equipment (i.e.cell phones) for communicating with a group still on their course should be done only after they are unable to continue and have withdrawn from the competition. Use of electronic communications with groups on the course is grounds for disqualification except in the case of an emergency or withdrawal from course competition. **There is minimal cell reception at FCSP. We also ban the use of drones at the orienteering event.**
- ★ **WE GO RAIN OR SHINE !** The maps are in sealed plastic bags; the scouts should dress for the weather. There are no pavilions so troops should bring their own pop-up tents if weather conditions require overhead cover.

## REGISTRATION & PLANNING TIMELINE:

**Registration Opens January 27th, 2024. (DVOA cannot control mail delivery)**  
**Properly completed registration form and full payment receipt will decide whether a troop is fully registered.**

**ASAP.**Secure a camping permit at French Creek if you desire a separate campsite for your troop. You probably will want to use group tenting sites, not general family camping sites. These are obtained by calling 1-888-727-2757. They are not done through the park.

**Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... Paid registrations received at DVOA registration address will pay \$9/participant and receive an S-MASOC35 patch.**

Monday **March 25<sup>th</sup> .....** Patch order is placed based on registrations received to that point.

Monday **April 1<sup>st</sup> .....** Paid Registration received by email at [FRANKDVOA@aol.com](mailto:FRANKDVOA@aol.com) will pay \$9/participant but **may not receive an event patch. Patch deadline is 3/22/2024.**

Friday **April 12<sup>th</sup> .....** Paid registration received by email at [FRANKDVOA@aol.com](mailto:FRANKDVOA@aol.com) between Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> pay **\$13/participant. No Patch guaranteed.** DVOA reserves the right to return registrations received after April 12<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**12 AM ET Saturday April 13th -Registration is closed**

Registrations received on or after this date will be returned unless communication with the registrar has been completed by phoning 610-310-4675 and a return email authorization to accept the entry has been given by the registrar.

**(Bring this authorization email with you to registration on day of event.)**

### PLEASE NOTE:

We have been using electronic “Epunches” on all courses since 2018.To do so requires final numbers a few weeks prior to the event so that additional competitor epunch devices can be made available and delivered to Event personnel in time for entering the numbers into the registration/results program. This method of timing for the morning cross-country event is more accurate and expedites results. Pin punching will continue to be used for the afternoon Score event. If you do not plan to participate in the afternoon Score event please note this in the space at the bottom of your registration form.

As DVOA will be celebrating the milestone 35<sup>th</sup> S-MASOC on May 4, 2024 you can HELP spread the word about this event by forwarding the information to other scout groups. Questions should be directed to Mary Frank at [frankdvoa@aol.com](mailto:frankdvoa@aol.com) or at 610-310-4675.