

# Southwest Spring Week 2024

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## Overview Map

See the [overview map](#) for a look at all the locations.

# Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b> (race start times)
Friday, March 1	<i>Bib pickup @ The Running Shop</i>	<i>2pm - 6pm</i>
Saturday, March 2	🏠 Catalina Classics (Day 1)	10am - noon
	🏠 Catalina Night-O (Night 1)	7pm
Sunday, March 3	🏠 Javelina Hustle (Day 2)	10am
	<b><i>Social Event - Dinner/Mappy Hour</i></b>	<i>5pm</i>
Monday, March 4	🏠 Cholla Chaser (Day 3)	10am
	<b><i>Social Event - Meet Me At Maynards</i></b>	<i>5:30pm</i>
Tuesday, March 5	🏠 Mini-Rogaine (Day 4)	9am - 11am
Wednesday, March 6	🏠 UA Sprints (Day 5 )	10am - noon
Thursday, March 7	🏠 Chimney Rock (Day 6)	10am - noon
	<b><i>Social Event - Three Canyon Beer &amp; Wine Garden</i></b>	<i>5pm</i>
Friday, March 8	<b><i>Social Event - Archeology Tour (Rest Day)</i></b>	<i>10am</i>
Saturday, March 9	🏠 Bomboy Mine (Day 8)	7am - 10am
	🏠 Hewitt Station Road (Night 8)	7pm
Sunday, March 10	🏠 Picketpost Trailhead (Day 9)	7am - 10am

# Preliminary Information

Southwest Spring Week is an aggressively casual week of quality orienteering. This guide has all the information you need to get to the event each day and be prepared for the courses and terrain. It also has a few suggestions of activities to do after orienteering each day. There is a lot to see and do (and eat!) in Southern Arizona, so don't hesitate to ask a local for suggestions.

Here are few things to keep in mind generally:

## Check-in and Bibs

This year we are introducing bibs to wear while you run. There will be bib pick-up at The Running Shop (3055 N Campbell Ave #153, Tucson, AZ 85719) on Friday, March 1st from 2pm-6pm, as well as at every event during the week. After your first day there is no need to check in at registration, you may proceed directly to the start and check in with the volunteers there. **Always check back in to download after you finish, whether you complete your course or not.**

## Sun

It may technically be winter in southern Arizona, but the sun can still be intense! A UV Index of 6 or 7 is typical for warm, sunny days. Consider wearing a hat and definitely bring sunscreen. You might see locals wearing long sleeves in the sun—it's not because we're cold, it's because we respect the sun.

## Water

We will not always have water available out on the courses, so **please be prepared to carry your own source of water** in a hydration vest or water bottle. Two hours in the desert sun dehydrates you much more efficiently than two hours in a shady and moist forest. **Always have extra water in your car for after your run!** We will have water at the finish but not cups—please have your own bottle or reusable cup.

## Vegetation

Some of our vegetation is a bit hostile. The best advice we have for avoiding scratches and needles is to run around, rather than directly into, any cactus you see, and to wear proper leg coverings (thicker pants and/or shin gaiters). However, it's possible that you still might pick up something prickly while running around. If it's a single spine, use tweezers to remove it.

If it's a cholla ball, DO NOT attempt to remove the ball with your bare fingers or any other body part. You'll just end up with cactus stuck to more of your body. One removal technique is to use

your map and your compass to lift the ball off your skin from both sides. We will also have **complimentary combs** available at registration that you can carry in a pocket while you run. Put the comb teeth between your body and the cholla ball to flick it away.



## Map Cases

We will have map cases available each day, feel free to take one if you'd like to protect your map during your run. While you are welcome to take a new map case each day, we also encourage you to reuse your map cases if they're in good shape.

## Live Results

Each day we will attempt to make results available on a local network at the event center. To see results from your device, please join the Wi-Fi network `tucson-results` and then point your browser to <http://192.168.0.100:8080/reports/SimpleResultsHtml>. Similarly, you can take a look at split times at <http://192.168.0.100:8080/reports/SplitResultsHtml>

You must be connected to the `tucson-results` network so see the results, and that network will not get you a connection to the outside world.

## Livelox

All events will be available on [Livelox](#), a route comparison, live tracking, and replay tool. You'll be able to access each event shortly after courses close. If you run with a gps watch or phone app, you can upload your track and watch your dot race around against everyone else. If you do not have a device already, you can also download the Livelox app on your phone and have it track your route and automatically have it show in the event, or simply draw in your route after the fact. There will be a QR code on each day's map that takes you directly to the day's Livelox entry.

For more information on how to use Livelox see the [Livelox Documentation](#).

## University of Arizona Team

This year six members of the Tucson Orienteering Club will travel to Junior Nationals near Quincy, Washington to compete in the Intercollegiate competition. Members of the UA team (aka ArizOna) are deeply involved in volunteering for the club, including during Southwest Spring Week. The team will have a donation jar at registration each day. Show them some love and help them offset travel costs for their trip! Your donations are greatly appreciated!

# Day 1: Catalina Classics

**Saturday Mar. 2, 2024**

**Location:** [Picnic Area Ramada](#), Catalina State Park, about 45 min. driving time from downtown Tucson.

**Directions:** From Tucson, drive north on Oracle Road; the park is 6 miles beyond Ina Road on the right. From Phoenix via I-10, take exit 240 and drive 14 miles east on Tangerine Road. Turn right at Oracle Road and drive a half mile to the park entrance on the left. The State Park day-use fee is \$7 per car. Follow signs to the Picnic Area.

Please consider carpooling to this event. The best is, of course, to carpool from town, but there is also plenty of parking at the vacant Chase Bank on the northwest corner of Hwy77 (Oracle Rd) and the Catalina Park Entrance Road. This helps with parking in the park and you can share the entry fee with your carpool. It is also possible to walk or bike to the park, in which case a \$3/person fee applies.

## Key Info

**Check-in Opens:** 9:00am

**Beginner Clinic:** 9:30am

**Starts:** 10am - noon *Note: There is a 1.5 km walk to the start!*

Start times have been assigned (for most people) for this event in an attempt to avoid an early morning crush.

**Courses close:** 3pm

**Restrooms:** permanent toilet blocks with running water

**Closest ER and urgent care:** Oro Valley Hospital (1551 E Tangerine Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85755) or Carbon Health Urgent Care (1880 E Tangerine Rd #100, Oro Valley, AZ 85755).

Both about 2.5mi from event parking.

**Water:** taps

**Course setter:** Anna Campbell (ArizOna)

**Vetter:** Tori Campbell

**Setter assistance:** Marcy Beard

**Event Directors:** Betsy Lubis & Cristina Luis (ArizOna)

Course	Map scale	Length (km)	Climb (m)
White	1:7500	2.0	30
Yellow	1:7500	2.3	35
Orange	1:10000	3.2	80
Brown	1:10000	3.9	90
Green	1:10000	5.0	100
Red	1:10000	6.4	180
Blue	1:10000	8.2	200

Catalina State Park is a favorite of visitors to Tucson, with stunning views of the Santa Catalina Mountains and technical orienteering in varied desert terrain (elevation 2800'). White on this map may not look anything like your white forest at home—it indicates the default vegetation in our mid-elevation Upland Sonoran desert scrub area. Desert scrub consists of many desert trees, such as palo verde and mesquite, that tend to be short and bushy. There are also many types of cactus, agave, and grasses. Large saguaro cacti with significant arms are mapped as green dots. Washes, which are usually dry, are mapped with the blue dots normally reserved for linear marshes. Leg coverings are recommended for this terrain!

Note that there is a 1.5 km (flat) walk to the remote start for all courses, so plan your arrival time accordingly. We'll have warmup maps that you can use along the route to the start so you can be acquainted with the mapping and vegetation style. Note that **magnetic north lines on this map are not parallel to the edges of the paper.**

**Course Setter Notes (Anna Campbell):**

1. Welcome to Catalina State Park! While it's not warm enough by certain AZ reptile standards, this area is currently a great place to appreciate some of our more common small lizards, including ornate tree lizards, and common side blotched lizards (these are the [rock paper scissors lizards!](#)). In case you don't find enough cool reptiles out on your course, there is the opportunity to view the state park's nature program near the start from 10am-1pm.
2. A bit about the map:
  - a. I found contours the most reliable feature for navigation.
  - b. Our mapping standard is to use white as our "desert forest," meaning you will probably need to veer around individual cactus, mesquite and other prickly

plants. The limited use of light green in the sections used for the Classic date from 2022's early vegetation growth - course setters and vetters did not find these areas remarkable this year. Some of the areas that are mapped as white are thicker than others and may break up the generally excellent long-range visibility, especially in the north and north west for advanced courses.

- c. Green dots represent large, individual saguaros. The ones we saw mapped had large arms, although not all saguaros with arms are mapped. I removed a few that were near control locations and were just husks, but it is possible that I missed a few. If it's on the map, you should be able to find it in the terrain. If it's a large saguaro in the terrain, it might be on the map.
  - d. Washes are mapped with blue dots, normally used for a linear swamp. This helps distinguish them on the map from trails and north lines. That said, washes in the terrain tend to be sandy, full of footprints, and often look like trails. Sometimes, trails run along washes, and the map becomes too cluttered if we try to jam all those symbols together. So, if you're in low ground where water runs and there's a sandy linear feature, it could be shown on your map as a trail, blue dotted wash, or both. Confused? It might help to use a few other features to be sure you're following the correct sandy linear feature.
  - e. There are a number of indistinct trails mapped northeast of the nature trail; you may find there's even more of a web of trails in the terrain, so you might want to keep an eye on your compass or other features when using these trails.
3. Clothing: Long sleeve tops and pants are highly recommended. Shoes with a solid toe are recommended as well, if you are easily distracted from watching your feet.
  4. Food / Water / Restrooms
    - a. Water is available from spigots at the Picnic Area or the Trailhead parking lot. This is the only area where you will be able to get water, so a camelback or some form of personal water carrying system appropriate for your distance and needs should be brought with you for the event. This would be easier if we were all lizards....
    - b. There are restrooms near the registration/finish and the start.
    - c. Some post-run snacks will be available at the Registration Area.
  5. White Course: The White course uses trails and washes as handrails. There is one leg, from control 4 to control 5, that will be streamered along a reentrant. Orienteers should follow the streamers off-trail to control 5, where they will join a trail / wash handrail leading to their next control.
  6. Yellow, Orange, Red and Blue courses cross the large wash to the south of the parking lot. There's enough water that you may get wet feet, but it's Tucson. Your feet will be dry by the time you finish.

**What to do after orienteering:**

- [Hike to Romero Pools](#) at Catalina State Park
- [Music in the Mountains Concert](#) at Catalina State Park (3pm)
- Visit [Tohono Chul Gardens and Galleries](#)



# Night 1: Catalina Night-O

**Saturday Mar. 2, 2024**

**Location:** [Sutherland Trailhead](#), Catalina State Park, about 45 min driving time from downtown Tucson.

**Directions:** From Tucson, drive north on Oracle Road; the park is 6 miles beyond Ina Road on the right. From Phoenix via I-10, take exit 240 and drive 14 miles east on Tangerine Road. Turn right at Oracle Road and drive a half mile to the park entrance on the left. The State Park day-use fee is \$7 per car. Follow the road to the end.

Key Info
<b>Check-in Opens:</b> 6pm <b>Mass Start:</b> 7pm <b>Courses close:</b> 9pm
<b>Restrooms:</b> permanent toilet blocks with running water <b>Closest ER and urgent care:</b> Oro Valley Hospital (1551 E Tangerine Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85755) or Carbon Health Urgent Care (1880 E Tangerine Rd #100, Oro Valley, AZ 85755). Both about 2.5mi from event parking.
<b>Course setter:</b> Anna Campbell (ArizOna) <b>Vetter:</b> Tori Campbell <b>Event Directors:</b> Cristina Luis (ArizOna) & Betsy Lubis

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)
Intermediate	3.9	130
Short Advanced	4.4	90
Long Advanced	7.3	180

All courses are on the same map (1:10000/5m), you can choose your course once you've started.

**Course Setter Notes** (Anna Campbell):

1. See Catalina Classics for map notes.
2. Start and Finish are from the fenced-in picnic area at the Sutherland Trailhead parking lot. See above for details about water, restrooms etc.
3. Mass start at 7pm.
4. Equipment: bring a flashlight and/ or a headlamp. You might want to bring both, since moonrise isn't until after 1am and the courses close at 9pm. Or, one could try the rattlesnake strategy of using heat sensing pits-I'm not sure how strong a signature the control boxes have, but you'd probably find plenty of cactus mice.
5. When you receive your map, you'll see it looks sort of like a butterfly. There will be a mass start and everyone goes to the same first control. Then, there are three course options:
  - a. Intermediate: Continue on for controls 2 through 6, then head to the finish.
  - b. Short Advanced: Go to 1, then cut to controls 6 through Finish.
  - c. Long Advanced: Just go to all the controls in order.
  - d. We'll also do an Explorer category and you can visit whichever controls you want to in whichever order you prefer. You get extra points for any reptiles or venomous invertebrates you find.

**What to do after orienteering:**

→ Sleep!

## Day 2: Javelina Hustle

**Sunday Mar. 3, 2024**

**Location:** [Picnic Area Ramada](#), Catalina State Park

**Directions:** From Tucson, drive north on Oracle Road; the park is 6 miles beyond Ina Road on the right. From Phoenix via I-10, take exit 240 and drive 14 miles east on Tangerine Road. Turn right at Oracle Road and drive a half mile to the park entrance on the left. The State Park day-use fee is \$7 per car. Follow signs to the Picnic Area.

Please consider carpooling to this event. The best is, of course, to carpool from town, but there is also plenty of parking at the vacant Chase Bank on the northwest corner of Hwy77 (Oracle Rd) and the Catalina Park Entrance Road. This helps with parking in the park and you can share the entry fee with your carpool. It is also possible to walk or bike to the park, in which case a \$3/person fee applies.

### Key Info

**Check-in Opens:** 9:00 am

**Beginner Clinic:** 9:30 am

**Javelina Course Brief:** 9:55 am

**Mass Start:** 10am

**Yellow Starts:** 10:05 am - noon

**Courses close:** 1pm

**Restrooms:** permanent toilet blocks with running water

**Social Dinner:** 5pm Mappy Hour w/ Tacos from Seis Kitchen at the Lubis household (address on your bib and in your inbox). More info below

**Closest ER and urgent care:** Oro Valley Hospital (1551 E Tangerine Rd, Oro Valley, AZ 85755) or Carbon Health Urgent Care (1880 E Tangerine Rd #100, Oro Valley, AZ 85755). Both about 2.5mi from event parking.

**Course setters:** Jeff & Nancy Coker

**Event Director:** Peg Davis

## Courses:

Course	Length (km)	# controls	Climb (m)	Scale
White	1.5	8	5	1:5000
Yellow	2.2	10	10	1:5000
Short Hustle	5.3	11	95	1:10,000
Long Hustle	11.7	22	310	1:10,000

## Course Setter Notes:

1. Please refer to Anna's Course Setter Notes for Day 1 regarding the map, especially the part about the washes and the trails. She described it very well. I have tried to update the trails in the areas we will be using but I am sure I missed a few social trails and with our recent winter rains the emerging vegetation has obscured some of the more indistinct trails in the low lying areas.
2. There will be no water controls on the courses. The Long Hustle will come back through the Start / picnic area where there will be water available if you need it.
3. Catalina State Park is a multi-use park. It is a very popular area for horseback riding and as such there is a good chance you will either encounter a horseback rider while out on a course or run by the horses in the corrals. When you encounter a horse please stop and step off the trail until the horse has passed. We do not want to spook the horse. Also, do not run through the corral area, which is marked as out of bounds.
4. The Start / Finish will be in the vicinity of the Registration / picnic area.
5. Hustles: They will be Goat-style events with a couple twists which will be explained at the pre-race briefing at 9:55. They will involve intermediate level navigation. The courses cross the main park road, so look both ways for both cars and bicycles.
6. White / Yellow: Both courses use paths, roads and washes as handrails. Please use caution when running along or across the roads, ensuring you look both ways when crossing for both cars and bicycles.

Awards for this day (top man and top woman in the Long and Short Hustle) have been provided by [DoctorBirdSaguaro](#).

## What to do after orienteering:

- Mappy Hour and Tacos at Lubis Homestead at 5pm (see below)

## **Social Event: Mappy Hour w/ Tacos from Seis Kitchen at the Lubis household**

5pm, address on your bib and in your inbox

Please join us for a social dinner at the Lubis Household! This Mappy Hour/Dinner features food from Seis Kitchen at the midtown home of club members Betsy, Wayne, and Billie Lubis. The address for this event can be found on the back of your bib and in an email sent to all SWSW participants. Everyone is welcome. You should have received an email with a link to RSVP; please fill out the RSVP form so we know how much food to order. We are charging \$20/adult, \$10/junior (cash, check, or PayPal). The fee covers the cost of food - we priced this out and it is cheaper than hosting a social at a restaurant. If there is any money left over after we pay for the catering, it will go to the club to help fund future orienteering events.

Our home is located along the 3rd St Bike Blvd, which has a fair amount of bike and pedestrian traffic. Please be careful, and please do not park too close to the circle—there's plenty of street parking in all directions.

# Day 3: Cholla Chaser

**Monday March 4, 2024**

**Location:** Ironwood picnic area in Tucson Mountain Park, west side of the Tucson Mountains. About a 35 minute drive from downtown Tucson.

**Directions and Parking:** Parking is at Old Tucson Studios ([32.215890, -111.131534](#)). Drive to the southeast corner of the visitor lot and follow the signs to the Auxiliary parking lot. Please arrive at Old Tucson by 9am so you have time to park, check-in, get ready, and attend the 9:30AM briefing. **WARNING:** The old Kinney Road entrance to the auxiliary lot is permanently closed. You must use the Old Tucson main visitor entrance. (See parking map below.)

## Key Info

**Check-in opens:** 9:00am

**Course briefing:** 9:30am

**Group Walk to Start (1km):** 9:40am (for both Cholla Chaser and Yellow)

**Cholla Chaser Mass Start:** 10am

**Yellow Course Start:** 10:10am

**Courses close:** 12pm

**Water:** No water on the course, only at parking and finish.

**Toilet:** Portable toilet at parking area only. **If you only need to pee, be a sport and use a tree.**

**Warm-up Map:** You will be given a truncated map of the walking route to the start.

**Clothes Drop:** At remote start.

**Closest ER and urgent care:** [St. Mary's Hospital](#) 1601 W St Marys Rd, Tucson, AZ 85745, Northwest Urgent Care 1370 N Silverbell Rd #170, Tucson, AZ 85745

**Course setter:** Jeff Brucker

**Course vetters:** Gregg Townsend and John Beard

**Event director:** Peg Davis

**Cholla Chaser:** This is a handicap race consisting of two sections...the Box followed by the Chase.

- **Handicap:** There are 12 Box controls, but the number you are required to get varies from 1 to 11, depending on your age and sex. (See handicap chart below, also printed on map if you forget.) This translates to approximately 3.0km for a 70 year old woman, and

6.0km for a 25 year old man, and somewhere in between that for all the other age groups.

- **Mass Start:** No start punch.
- **Box Section:** You can go to your required Box controls in any order.
- **Transition:** After you punch your last required box control, go straight to Chase #1.
- **Chase:** A normal point-point course, the same for everyone.
- **Finish:** First punch wins, no matter your age or sex.

**Yellow Course:** There will also be a 2.5km yellow course. The Yellow start is adjacent to the Chaser start, and the Yellow folks will also go on the group walk to the start.

**Map:**

1:10,000/5m for Cholla Chaser  
 1:7500 for Yellow

**Course Setter notes:**

**Terrain:** Ironwood Park is mostly open desert with many shallow dry washes, with amazing views of the mountains on the skyline. There is a small set of low hills on one edge of the Box, but only the M21+ runners will need to go there.

**Subtle Features:** Many of the mapped small washes are very shallow and indistinct. Use your warmup map to get a feel for them.

**Handicap Chart:**

Birth Year	Men Controls Required	Women Controls Required
1954 or earlier	3	1
1955-1964	5	3
1965-1974	7	5
1975-1984	9	7
1985-2004	11	9
2005-2006	9	7
2007-2008	7	5
2009-2010	5	3
2011 or later	3	1

Course	# Controls	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Map
Chaser	10-20	3-6	Not much	1:10,000
Yellow	10	2.4	Not much	1:7,500

Awards for this day (top 3) have been provided by [DoctorBirdSaguaro](#).

**What to do after orienteering:**

- Visit Old Tucson Studios. Mention that you are with the Tucson Orienteering Club event and get 2 child-priced tickets for the price of one (adults using this offer can use a child ticket). Many western movies have been filmed there. You can recognize the skyline in several older movies.
- This is also a great day to visit the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, which is a must-do activity while in Tucson. The Desert Museum can be reached by taking Kinney Road to the northwest from the intersection with Gates Pass Rd (you'll see signs to it).
- 5:30pm Meet Me At Maynards

**Parking Map:**





# Day 4: Oak Tree Canyon Mini-Rogaine

Tuesday March 5, 2024

**Location:** [Oak Tree Canyon Trailhead](#), Rt 83

**Directions:** Please arrange carpools for this event! We would prefer all cars to have at least three people in them upon arriving at the parking lot.

From Tucson, take I-10 East to HWY 83 South towards Sonoita. Take HWY 83 South to mile marker 44. Shortly after mile marker 44, turn right into the large graveled parking lot for “Oak Tree Trailhead”. Follow the parking attendant’s directions.

Key Info
<b>Check-in opens:</b> 8:30am <b>Starts:</b> 9am - 11am <b>Courses close:</b> 2pm
<b>Course setters:</b> Brad and Yvonne Poe <b>Event Director:</b> Yvonne Poe
<b>Closest ER and urgent care:</b> Tucson Medical Center Emergency Department, 5301 E Grant Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 327-5461, Carbon Health Urgent Care 9175 E Tanque Verde Rd #187, Tucson, AZ 85749 (520) 467-7002

**Course:**

Course	# Controls	Length (km)	Climb (m)
Mini-Rogaine	31	13	660

**Map:** 1:10000/5m. This is a new, in-progress map of an area to the north of our other existing Rt 83 grassland maps. The west side has been partially field-checked and includes vegetation mapping. The east side, which burned in a large fire several months ago, is quite fresh with no vegetation details mapped. Runners will find the east side very passable and fast.

**Course setter notes:**

The course features sweeping vistas of the Santa Rita, Santa Catalina, Rincon and Whetstone mountain ranges. The landscape consists mostly of rolling grasslands, dotted with evidence of Arizona's ranching history. There are controls set for all ability levels, from beginner to experienced. The northern portion of the map features more difficult terrain, while the southern and eastern portions feature easier landscape.

**What to do after orienteering:**

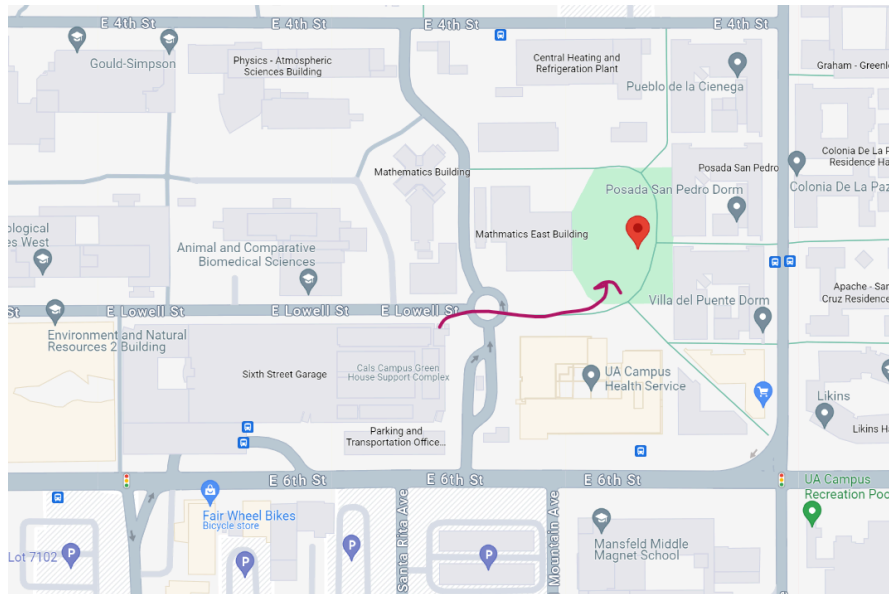
- Head to Sonoita and Elgin and visit some wineries
- Visit the historic [Empire Ranch Headquarters](#)
- Copper Brothel Brewery in Sonoita

# Day 5: University of Arizona Sprints

Wednesday March 6, 2024

Location: [Highland Quad](#), University of Arizona

Directions: Park in the Sixth St. Garage. Walk east from the northeast corner of the garage to the grassy Highland Quad.



## Key Info

**Check-in opens:** 9:30am

**Starts:** 10am - noon

**Courses close:** 2pm

**Restrooms:** In buildings

**Closest ER and urgent care:** Banner - University Medical Center 1625 N Campbell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719 (520) 694-0111, NextCare Urgent Care 501 N Park Ave #110, Tucson, AZ 85719 (520) 284-9200

**Course setters:** Isaac Pimienta (ArizOna)

**Event Director:** Cristina Luis (ArizOna)

**Courses:** We plan to have two sprint courses and a beginner course on offer. Due to Festival of Books preparations across campus, we are unable to finalize the courses before the publishing of this Event Guide.

**Map:** 1:4000/2m contours

**Course notes:**

Welcome to the University of Arizona! This is a fun, fast map with flat terrain and great runnability. There will be two sprint courses that will test route choice and keeping map contact while running at fast speeds. There will also be a shorter, beginner-friendly course available.

The annual Tucson Festival of Books will be held at the University of Arizona the weekend after this event. Set up for the event has already begun and will be ongoing throughout the week. Festival tents will be scattered throughout the campus. In order to minimize conflict, courses are set to avoid running across the Mall.

**What to do after orienteering:**

- Visit the Arizona State Museum
- Take the (free!) streetcar to 4th Avenue, downtown Tucson, or the Mercado
- Go for a hike and (possibly) a swim in Sabino Canyon
- Visit the Desert Museum
- Drive up the Catalina Highway and visit Tucson's downhill ski resort

# Day 6: Chimney Rock Long

Thursday March 7, 2024

**Location:** [Redington Pass Trailhead](#) with parking/carpooling from Udall Park!

**Directions:** The road to this event is rough and not recommended for low clearance vehicles. It's possible to do in a sedan if you are confident and drive slowly, but a lot easier in a higher clearance vehicle. We want everyone to be able to attend, regardless of vehicle and comfort level driving on unpaved roads. Therefore, we ask that everyone who needs a ride or can offer a ride meet in the northeasternmost parking lot at [Udall Park](#) between 8am and 8:30am. We will form carpools and get everyone to the event from there. The driving time from Udall Park to the trailhead is 40-60 min.

The final parking location for this event is at the Redington Pass Trailhead <https://maps.app.goo.gl/a4RP1G17tsrbKZjK7> It is in an OHV parking lot off of Redington Rd. The final 8 miles are unpaved with sections that are difficult to drive.

Key Info
<b>Check-in Opens:</b> 9:30am <b>Starts:</b> 10 am - 11:30 am <b>Courses close:</b> 2pm
<b>Closest ER and urgent care:</b> Tucson Medical Center Emergency Department, 5301 E Grant Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712 (520) 327-5461, Carbon Health Urgent Care 9175 E Tanque Verde Rd #187, Tucson, AZ 85749 (520) 467-7002
<b>Course setter:</b> Alan Craig <b>Event Director:</b> Billie Lubis (ArizOna)

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Scale
Yellow	2.4	85	1:7500
Short Advanced	5.3	200	1:10000
Long Advanced	9.3	275	1:10000

**Course Notes:**

For the first time in almost a decade we're venturing out into Redington Pass, on the northeast side of Tucson. You'll be treated to a large area of transitional terrain at about 4000', sitting between the Santa Catalina Mountains and the Rincon Mountains. The landscape here is closer to our Rt 83 areas (rolling grassland) than the desert valley, but with more rocks and intricate details.

The Chimney Rock map was created in the early 1990's for a national event. It has since seen only very occasional use and minor updates. We haven't made any significant updates to the map in the past decade, so you may find some outdated vegetation or trails, but it has generally held up quite well.

**What to do after the orienteering:**

Social Dinner, arrival from 5:00 pm @ [Three Canyon Beer and Wine Garden](#) (kids welcome, no cover charge this year)

# Day 7: Rest Day & Archeology Tour (Social Event)

**Friday March 8, 2024**

**Location:** Los Morteros Archeological Preserve, Marana

**Directions:** Coming from Tucson: Take I-10 West to the Twin Peaks Road exit. Head left (southwest) on Twin Peaks to Silverbell Road. Head right (northwest) on Silverbell Road then take your next right to continue on Silverbell Road 0.5 miles to Linda Vista Blvd. Take a right on Linda Vista and parking will be in the dirt on the south side of the road.

Coordinates for parking area: 32.381064, -111.138399

**Event:** 10am - 11:30am

**Archeologist:** Alan Craig

Come along for a broad spectrum introduction to the Tucson Basin's prehistory (and maybe a skosh of history as well) at the Los Morteros Archaeological Preserve in Marana, an area inhabited for tens of thousands of years and a focal point of humanity and survival within the Basin for much of that time. This walk-and-talk is approximately one mile long on manicured dirt paths, so there will be plenty of time to gab about all things prehistoric (and maybe historic too)!

# Day 8: Bomboy Mine

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

**Location:** [Bomboy Mine Event Site](#) (Near Superior, AZ)

## **Directions:**

East on US 60, past mp 222, to the turnoff for the Boyce Thompson Arboretum. Turn north, cross US 60 onto a gravel road. At the T (100m), turn west onto FR 357.

Travel 2.3 miles west on FR357. Turn north on FR252, continue 0.7 miles to the event site. FR357 is a well-maintained gravel road. FR252 is rough in spots.

Please consider carpooling for this event. Parking is quite limited and we're going to be a large group. Also, we're open at 7am, so consider starting your course early, to spread the crowd over a longer time. The 8:30am to 9:30am window is packed!

Key Info
<b>Check-in Opens:</b> 7am <b>Starts:</b> 7am to 10am <b>Courses close:</b> noon
<b>Course setter:</b> Forest Brown <b>Event Director:</b> Ron Birks

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)
Intermediate	12.4	497
Short Advanced	10.3	425
Long Advanced	5.3	184

**Map:** 1:10000/5m, legal-size paper. This is a new, in-progress map. We haven't thoroughly field-checked the area, so you're likely to find missing rocks, cliffs, bare ground, lizards, gila monsters, javelinas, etc. Five-meter contours are generated from 1m data from a stereophotogrammetry point cloud. The contours are a nice improvement over previous iterations of the map. Accurate vegetation is generated from satellite imagery (NDVI from 4-band imagery, if you're curious). Colors are somewhat non-standard, with white representing rough open desert and dark green indicating areas you're not likely to get through on foot. A



good example is last year's Sophie's Flat map found [here](https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2023/20230225_SophiesFlat_Score-O_Map.pdf) ([https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2023/20230225\\_SophiesFlat\\_Score-O\\_Map.pdf](https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2023/20230225_SophiesFlat_Score-O_Map.pdf)).

**Course Notes:** The terrain is mostly runnable. Depending on the time of year, dry grass and grass seeds can be quite annoying. It's the desert, there are prickly plants, so we suggest you cover your legs. Any green you see on the map indicates areas that satellite views identify as vegetation. Our scrub forests in the desert are different than your fancy forests in other parts of the U.S. and abroad. We often don't have tall trees to run under. If satellite imagery identifies a spot as vegetation, we're pretty much assured it's impassable. (You're welcome to try to crash through the vegetation if you like.) The map should probably include only "rough open" and "rough open with scattered trees", with some "impassable vegetation", but that would be boring and wouldn't showcase our nifty NDVI calculation. We hope you'll find it inside yourself to be flexible with the map colors and not too critical.

The route to Bomboy Mine and the other Phoenix events passes through the site of the annual and very popular Renaissance Fair. Traffic on US-60 gets heavy starting fairly early in the morning. Please plan your arrival to the Phoenix events accordingly.

Parking at Bomboy Mine is tight and ad hoc. Please plan to car pool as much as possible. When you get to the event site, you're welcome to find a spot that makes sense. We'll try our best to guide you to an open spot when things get busy. We're going to be a big crowd, especially between 8:30 and 9:30. We'll open registration and starts at 7:00 AM. Any of you who wish to avoid the throng and start early are welcome to join us as early.

**What to do after the orienteering:**

1. Boyce Thompson Arboretum (< 5 miles away, ★★★★★)
2. Historic Downtown Superior, AZ
3. Apache Leap

# Night 8: Hewitt Station Road

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

**Location:** [Hewitt Station Road, Arizona Trail Trailhead](#) (Near Superior, AZ)

## **Directions:**

East on US 60, past mp 222, to the turnoff for the Boyce Thompson Arboretum. Turn north, cross US 60 onto a gravel road. At the T (100m), turn west onto FR 357. Travel 0.7 miles west on FR357 to the Arizona Trail Trailhead parking area.

Please consider carpooling for this event. When you do park, please try to pack your vehicles into as small of a space as you can. Parking is again really limited and we're going to be a group greater than 50 for a mass start. It's going to be crowded at the trailhead.

Key Info
<b>Check-in Opens:</b> 6pm <b>Pre-Race Briefing:</b> 6:45pm (mandatory) <b>Starts:</b> Mass start at 7pm <b>Course closes:</b> 9pm  <b>Course setter:</b> Ron Birks <b>Event Director:</b> Ron Birks

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)
Night-O	7.8	184

**Map:** 1:10000/5m, letter-size paper. We've used parts of this map before ([https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2021/20211211\\_HewittStationRoad\\_Score-O\\_Map.pdf](https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2021/20211211_HewittStationRoad_Score-O_Map.pdf)). As with most of our maps, the map is a work in progress. You're likely to find unmapped cliffs and earth banks, boulders and rock pillars, etc. The contours (5m, generated from a stereophotogrammetry point cloud) and impassable vegetation (from NDVI on satellite imagery) are surprisingly accurate compared to maps from a few years ago. We hope you'll consider the sensitive personalities of our introverted mappers and be flexible and accepting of our unmapped features.

**Course Notes:** The terrain is mostly runnable. Prickly plants and dry grass seeds are an annoyance. Please consider covering your legs. (It's the desert. There are sharp plants. Like you don't have sharp plants where you're from.) At least the snakes aren't active this time of year. Since it's a Night-O, we'll keep the total distance shorter than a regular course. Winning times could be slightly over an hour. Everyone will have up to 2 hours to find as many controls as they can.

We have a large group joining us for the Night-O. The parking area is quite small. Please plan to car pool as much as possible. When you get to the event site, please park close to vehicles next to you, so we can accommodate all our participants. We'll help with parking as much as we can. If we get to a point where we have more vehicles than the lot can accommodate, there's a large OHV parking area ~0.7 miles back up the gravel road, just off US-60, that we can use for parking and shuttling participants to the start. Please plan enough time to ensure you're able to make the mandatory pre-race briefing at 6:45 PM.

**What to do after the orienteering:**

- Sleep. It's a Night-O. What are you doing looking for things to do after the event?
- Nightlife in Superior, AZ.

# Day 9: Picketpost Trailhead

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

**Location:** [Picketpost Trailhead](#) (Near Superior, AZ)

## **Directions:**

East on US 60, past mp 221, to the sign for “Picketpost Trailhead”.

Turn south, travel 0.4 miles on Uno Road to a T-intersection.

Turn west and travel 0.7 miles on Saddleridge Trail to the Picketpost Trailhead.

Look for orange and white orienteering signs.

Please consider carpooling for this event. Parking is again really limited and we’re going to be a large group. Also, we’re open at 7am, so consider starting your course early, to spread the crowd over a longer time. The 8:30am to 9:30am window is packed!

Key Info
<b>Check-in Opens:</b> 7am <b>Starts:</b> 7am to 10am <b>Courses close:</b> noon
<b>Course setter:</b> Ron Birks <b>Event Director:</b> Ron Birks

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)
Score-O	10.7	580
Long Advanced	9.4	521
Short Advanced	5.0	198

**Map:** 1:10000/5m, legal-size paper. We’ve used parts of this map before ([https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2022/20221210\\_PicketpostTrailhead\\_Score-O\\_Map.pdf](https://gphxo.org/Results/Maps/2022/20221210_PicketpostTrailhead_Score-O_Map.pdf)). Once again, the contours (5m, generated from a stereophotogrammetry point cloud) and the impassable vegetation (from NDVI on satellite imagery) are an improvement from previous map iterations. However, the map is a work-in-progress. We have not thoroughly field checked the area, so you will find unmapped features.

**Course Notes:** The terrain is mostly runnable. There are prickly plants and dry grasses that you'll find annoying. Also, this area has a few more rock features than the other Phoenix events this year. As an added bonus, the massive Picketpost Mountain is located just to the west of the trailhead. We won't send you up the mountain, but it's a definite bonus attraction.

The route to the Picketpost Trailhead event passes through the site of the annual and very popular Renaissance Fair. Traffic on US-60 gets heavy starting fairly early in the morning. Please plan your arrival accordingly.

Most of the U.S. observes daylight savings time on March 10. In most of Arizona, we DO NOT observe daylight savings time. For the Picketpost Trailhead event, you should NOT set your clock forward.

Parking at the Picketpost Trailhead is tight. Please plan to car pool as much as possible. The parking area has specified areas to park. We'll try our best to guide you to an open spot when things get busy. There is also more parking ~0.5 miles back up the road. Please note, a large part of the parking area at the trailhead is reserved for horse trailer parking. Please do not park your passenger vehicles in the area reserved for horse trailers. We won't be allowed to use the site again if we clog up the horse trailer parking with our vehicles.

We're going to be a big crowd, especially between 8:30 and 9:30. We'll open registration and starts at 7:00 AM. Any of you who wish to avoid the throng and start early are welcome to join us as early.

**What to do after the orienteering:**

4. Boyce Thompson Arboretum (< 5 miles away, ★★★★★)
5. Historic Downtown Superior, AZ
6. Apache Leap
7. Hike up Picketpost Mountain