



Meet Director's Notes

Welcome to the 29th Annual West Point A-Meet! On behalf of the entire team, we're glad you could join us for another exciting weekend of orienteering in the scenic Hudson Valley region. This year our format has changed from our traditional 2-day combined classic competition and we will instead be hosting three separate competitions: a middle distance event, a sprint event, and a classic distance event. On Saturday the middle and sprint courses will be in the vicinity of Camp Natural Bridge, and on Sunday the classic distance event will be hosted at Round Pond Military Recreation Site and run in Black Rock Forest. In addition, the U.S. Trail-O Team Trial will take place concurrently with the Saturday Sprint at Camp Buckner.

Orientation

This year's event will be hosted at three venues; Camp Natural Bridge, Camp Buckner, and Round Pond Military Recreation Site. There are no shuttles between venues this year--please prepare to drive or receive a ride to the start.

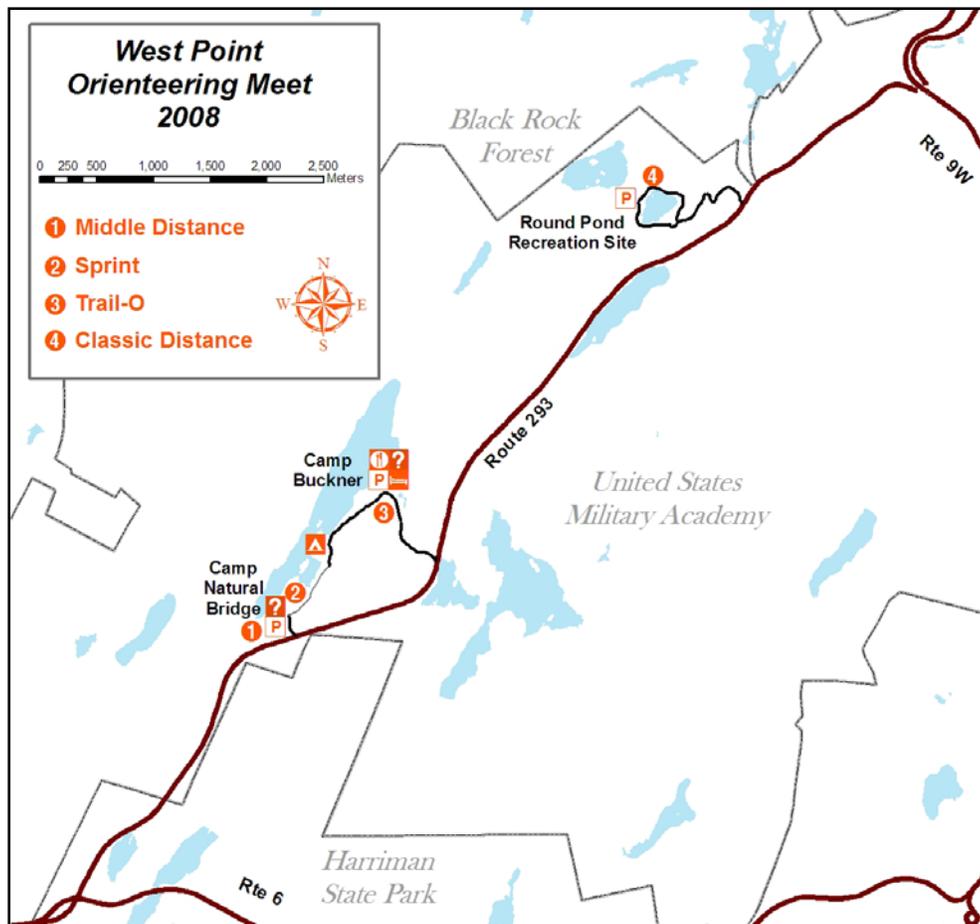
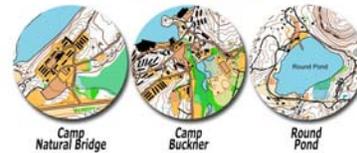
Camp Buckner: Meet Headquarters, Lodging, Saturday Awards Ceremony, Dinner, and Trail O start/finish

Camp Natural Bridge: Saturday event parking, walk to middle courses' start and finish. Sprint courses. Concession Stand 1000 – 1300.

Round Pond Recreation Site: Sunday event parking, walk to classic courses' start and finish. Sunday awards ceremony.

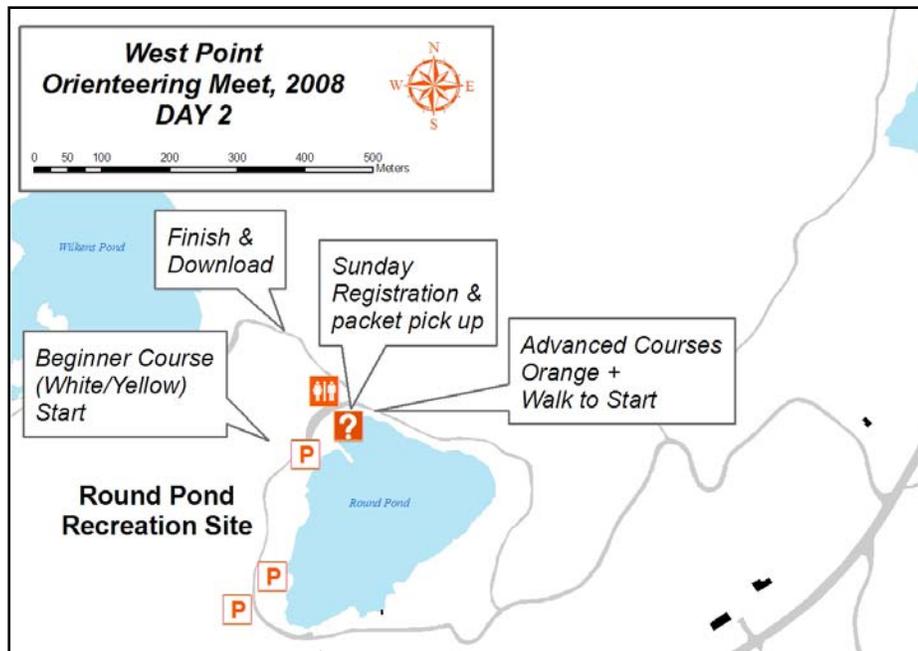
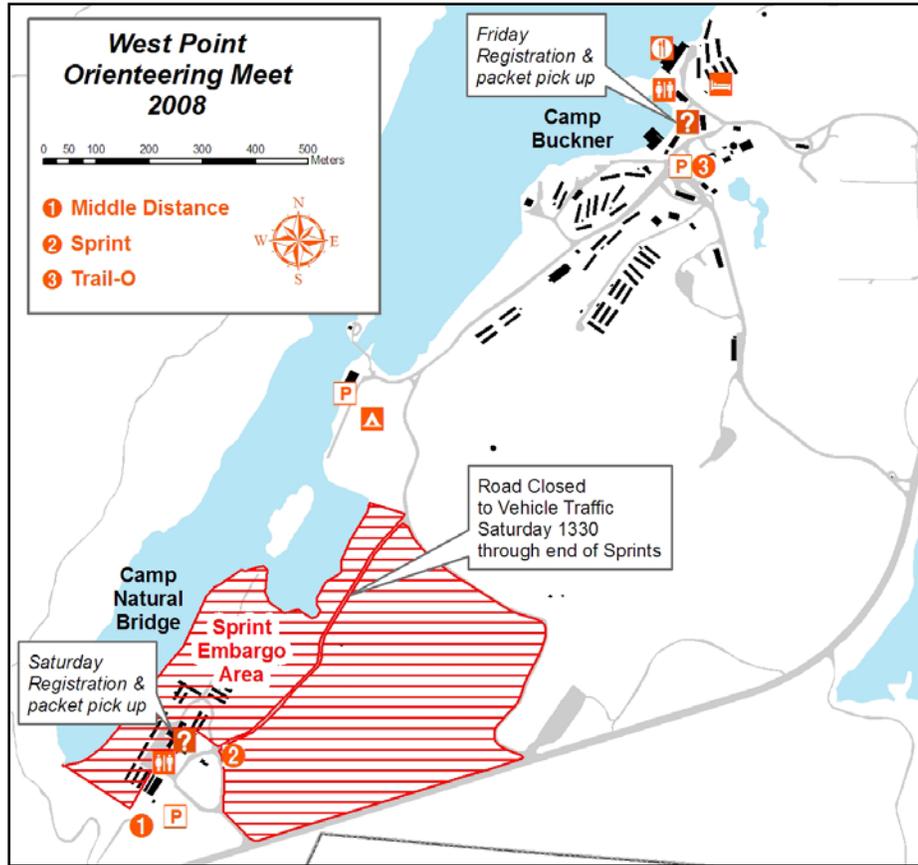
29th West Point Orienteering Meet

May 3rd & 4th, 2008



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Schedule

Friday, 2 May

1600 – 2300 Registration / Packet Pick-Up at Camp Buckner Meet HQ

Saturday, 3 May (Sunrise @ 0551, Sunset @ 1953)

0700 – 1300 Registration / Packet Pick-Up at **Camp Natural Bridge!**

0900 – 1200 Middle Distance Starts

1200 – 1500 U.S. Team Trail-O Starts at Camp Buckner

1400 – 1530 Sprint Course Starts at Camp Buckner

1745 – 1800 Day 1 Awards Ceremony Camp Buckner vic. Barth Hall

1800 – UTC Saturday Dinner in Barth Hall, followed by Orienteering Technology Demonstration

Sunday, 4 May (Sunrise @ 0550, Sunset @ 1954)

0700 – 0900 Registration / Packet Pick-Up at **Round Pond Recreational area**

0800 – 1100 Classic Distance Starts

NLT 1400 Day 2 Awards Ceremony @ Round Pond

NLT 1600 Check out of Barracks at Camp Buckner

Embargo Areas: Much of the Camp Natural Bridge area is designated as an embargo area, see Camp Natural Bridge Map. Please stay out of these areas.

Travel between Venues: There are no shuttles between venues this year--please prepare to drive or receive a ride to the start. The connector road between Camp Buckner and Camp Natural Bridge will be CLOSED to vehicle traffic Saturday 1330 - 1600 to ensure safety of the sprint event. During this time please use the main road, Route 293, to travel between these two sites. The connector road goes through the Sprint Embargo area, please stay on the road if you are walking (and driving for that matter).

Parking: Adequate Parking will be available at all three venues: Camp Buckner, Camp Natural Bridge, and Round Pond Recreational Area.

Lodging: For those who opted to stay in the barracks, check in will occur at the HQ building at Camp Buckner on Friday starting at 1600. All barracks bays feature running hot water and a small shower room; however the primary bathhouse (small red building adjacent to Barth Hall) will be available for use as well. It can get VERY COLD in the bays (even in the summer), so please bundle up at night.

Camping: The primary camp site is the parade field located at Camp Buckner, approximately a 5 minute walk from the HQ building. There are no electrical or water hook-ups at the camp site. In addition, wood fires are prohibited on the parade ground. Please no vehicles on the parade field.

Restrooms / Showers: Day 1 restrooms will be located at a designated bay in Camp Natural Bridge. The start triangle will not have any restroom facilities...so please go before you "O". Day 2 restrooms will be located near the parking area at Round Pond. Due to plumbing renovation, the showers will not be serviceable but the toilets will. There is 24-hour access to the bathhouse at Camp Buckner for those who want to take a hot shower.

T-Shirts: T-Shirt pick-up for those who pre-ordered 2008 meet shirts is available at Registration / Packet Pick-Up for both days and Camp Buckner Meet HQ on Saturday evening. Additional 2008 meet shirts and extra shirts from prior A-meets will also be available for purchase.

Concession Stand: There will be a concession stand to benefit the JWOC team, Saturday ONLY 1000-1300 at Camp Natural Bridge.

Vendors: Vendors will set up at Camp Natural Bridge during Day 1 and transition to Camp Buckner as evening approaches. Day 2 Vendors may set up in Round Pond recreational area, as long as they do not impede traffic movement or meet operations.

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Silent Auction: A silent auction hosted by Donna Fleugel to support the JWOC team will be available at Barth Hall following Day 1 courses.

Dinner: For those who pre-purchased dinner tickets, dinner will start at 1800 in Barth Hall. Following the dinner will be a presentation on GIS and Mapping technology by LTC Michael Hendricks for those interested.

Start & Finish:

Day 1: Saturday, 3 May 2008

- Middle Distance (start times 0900-1200): Park at Camp Natural Bridge. It is approximately a 15-minute *UPHILL* walk (1km – 120m climb) to the start. Directions to the start will be marked by streamers starting at the NW corner of the parking area. We will have water available and a clothing drop. You can pick up your clothes at the Finish. *There is a 20-minute streamered walk from the finish (1.33km – 10m climb) back to Camp Natural Bridge Parking.*
- Sprint (Start times 1400-1530): Park at Camp Natural Bridge. The sprint start is very near the parking area at Camp Natural Bridge. The finish will offer an excellent opportunity for spectators and of course there will be additional spectator controls.
- Day 1 Trail-O (Start times 1200- 1500): Park at **Camp Buckner**. Start and finish are located near the Camp Buckner Parking

Day 2: Sunday, 4 May 2008

- Day 1 Classic (Start times 0800- 1100): There will be a split start.
 - White/Yellow start is located very near the Venue headquarters. Please follow the signs to the White/Yellow start
 - All other courses (Orange – Blue) will start on the east side of Round Pond recreational area; approximately a 10-15-minute walk (1km – 60m climb). Please follow the streamers to the start location. Again, water and a clothing drop will be available to return clothes to the Finish / Download.

Start Procedure: We will use a 2-line start; the map pick-up will be located at the start triangle. Runners will be called up two minutes prior to actual start time. We will schedule no less than 2 minute intervals between runners for Middle and Classic, and 1 minute for the Sprint course.

Regardless if you finish the course, you *MUST check in with the Finish crew before leaving the course.* We will track runners based on who crosses the finish line, and will assume you are still missing in the forest if you do not check in.

Time Limits: There is a 2 hour time limit for Middle, 3 hour for the Classic distance courses, and a 1 hour time limit for the Sprint. Please do not remain on the courses longer than the designated time limit; we will begin pulling points as soon as the last runner is overtime.

Safety Azimuth: For both days, the safety azimuth is 180° (South) to Rt. 293. Please exercise caution and stay to the edge if moving along Rt. 293; there is high speed traffic and blind turns along the road.

In addition, all competitors are *HIGHLY ENCOURAGED* to bring a whistle along on the course... it is very difficult to yell over West Point's mountainous terrain and will only make finding you more difficult if you're injured.

First Aid: The USMA Ski Patrol will provide medical support for treating minor injuries (cuts, abrasions, sprains, etc.) and will be located near the Finish location on both days.

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For emergencies, notify the nearest meet personnel or dial 911. The closest emergency hospital is Keller Army Community Hospital located on the West Point main post through Washington Gate.

From any meet site, head east on Rt. 293 for approximately 5-6 miles, veer left underneath the 9W overpass and continue past a stop sign until you approach Washington Gate. Proceed through the security checkpoint after notifying the guards of your emergency, and Keller is located approximately 200m on the left side of Washington road.

Results: Saturday results will be posted at Camp Natural Bridge's venue HQ and then Saturday evening at Barth Hall. Sunday results will be posted Round Pond venue HQ.

Protests

In the event of a protest, please notify in writing the Meet Director the nature of the complaint. Each protest will be deliberated by a jury consisting of MAJ Jonathan Campbell, plus two others.

Awards

The award presentation for Day, Middle, Sprint, and Trail-O will take place at approximately 1745 near Barth Hall at Camp Buckner. Day 2 awards will be presented at Round Pond recreational area as soon as they become available, but NLT 1400.

Winners for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category will be announced. For juniors (18 and below), awards in the form of cadet brass pins will be handed out. For categories 18+ years and older, the USMA Orienteering team will make a donation on your behalf to support the US Junior World Orienteering Team this summer.

At the Saturday awards presentation, the USMA orienteering team will also present the 1st edition of the *Bruce O'Neill Memorial Orienteering Award* in honor of Mr. O'Neill: recently deceased USMA '82 graduate and former team Cadet-in-Charge. This award recognizes one cadet who has achieved excellence in the sport of Orienteering throughout the academic year. We're honored to have some of you as guests to this special presentation, and welcome close family and friends of Mr. O'Neill to our meet.

A few parting thoughts...

- Camp Buckner and Camp Natural Bridge both feature training equipment and obstacle courses intended for cadet use only. Please do not climb or attempt to use any of the equipment... it could be unsafe and we as a team are not authorized to access them.
- Our courses run through training ranges on both days...as such, there are spent brass casings, used smoke grenades / artillery simulators and possibly unexpended blank ammunition left over from summer training throughout the woods. DO NOT pick up and remove any ammunition from the meet site...it is both illegal and dangerous.
- In addition to thorns, there is a small possibility that errant strands of concertina wire are strung about the forest floor (potentially to mid-thigh level) as a legacy from previous summer training. If you should stumble across some, please exercise caution and just go around it...it could be very sharp and/or rusty.
- Lastly, enjoy yourself! If there is anything that we as a team could do better, please don't hesitate to notify myself or any of the cadets staffing the event. We will do our best to accommodate you and improve future A-meets.

Regards,

CDT Christopher Beckwith
Meet Director

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Mapper Notes

Mapping Notes: Middle Distance: Bull Pond area

Scale 1:10000, 5m contours

Many of you have run here at West Point before. For those who haven't, our maps are great examples of mapping simplification, legibly depicting what is often complex terrain. If mapped, it's out there; conversely, if there, it may or may not be mapped—in the complicated areas, the most navigationally significant features are shown as legibly as possible. IOF mapping standards call for minimum boulder or cliff heights of 1 meter. Elsewhere, rocks and cliffs are a bit exaggerated. Here, “almost a meter high” stays off the map.

These lands are used extensively during the summer months for cadet training. The training locations and activities change from year-to-year, and sometimes this use results in prominent, but temporary trails. These are usually unmapped, because although they might be visible this year, by next they are gone or altered.

A couple of specific comments:

1. Rocky ground. All of West Point is rocky. Get over it. The rocky ground depicted on our maps tends both to affect running speed and be distinct enough to navigate with.

2. Vegetation. The “deep” woods of West Point tend to be open and runnable (subject to rocky ground comment above and the ever-present hills). “Medium green” is almost solely reserved to depict mountain laurel, an evergreen shrub. The good news is that mountain laurel spreads slowly, so the mapped green tends to remain accurate. We have done small, spot updates of vegetation only when it directly affects a control circle or reasonable route choice.

Our maps are showing their age, and a comprehensive update is in the works. In the meantime, trust the contours, the rocks, and the cliffs. They haven't changed much since the last Ice Age. Don't rely exclusively on the mapped vegetation.

Mapper's Notes: Sprint: Camp Natural Bridge—Jon Campbell

ISSOM 2007, Scale: 1:5000, 2.5m contour interval

This new map, based on 2.5m contours from a November 2006 LIDAR survey, was field-checked in the winter and spring of 2008. The scale allows feature-rich areas to be depicted without the major simplification involved elsewhere at West Point.

If you are unfamiliar with the ISSOM (International Specification for Sprint Orienteering Maps) 2007 symbols, you may want to examine any of the legend samples posted near Registration or the Sprint start. Significant differences exist in the depiction of walls, buildings, and impassable (forbidden to cross) objects.

Special features used on this map:

Brown X: rootstocks, minimum height: 1 meter.

Black X: manmade objects such as exercise station, junk pile, etc.

Mapping Notes: Classic Distance: Round Pond & Black Rock Forest

Same comments as Middle Distance.

Regards,

Mike Hendricks & Jon Campbell

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Course Notes: Blackcap Mountain (Day 1) Middle Distance

All Courses: **1:10000, 5m**

Course Notes

All of the courses throughout the weekend are a little shorter than normal. Although this was done to balance the courses due to the inherent ruggedness of the terrain, I trust that it will also be a welcome respite. The area is generally very runnable with patches of blueberry bushes in some areas. This area has also been used for cadet land navigation (Landnav) training for decades. As a result, there are many trees that have been adorned with stripes and placards marking points. More importantly, however, are the numerous cadet-made paths (or “elephant trails”) crisscrossing the entire Blackcap area. These do not appear on the map, and they generally serve to take you no where. I do recommend wearing leg protection for all advanced courses. As always, make sure you check your codes prior to punching as there are several areas with a high concentration of controls. All controls will be placed on a stand with the e-punch. There will be a manual punch on each stand in case of an e-punch malfunction.

At various times on the advanced courses, you will approach the boundary of the USMA reservation. In some areas, there is a firebreak along the boundary, in other areas it is unmarked or loosely marked with paint blazes on trees, or with signs that say: “United States Military Academy, No Trespassing...” You may cross these boundaries during this meet. If you encounter signs saying “Impact / Dud Area, Keep Out,” obey them (for your safety) and start moving on the safety azimuth, because you are many kilometers off the map!

Be aware that there are some land navigation controls for use during this summer’s training already in the woods in the area of our competition. They are hung very high on trees painted with yellow & white bands, are without control stands or e-punch units, and are marked with two-letter codes, not the three-number codes we are using.

Blue runners may encounter a paint-blazed, but non-existent trail on the farthest reaches of the course. The blazes are the result of a temporary trail re-routing—since there is no trail there, only blazes, it is not marked on the map. The trails marked on the map nearby are both paint-blazed and clearly evident.

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls
Blue	5.13	190	15
Red	4.23	170	14
Green X	3.81	160	12
Green Y	3.82	155	12
Brown	3.04	120	10
Orange	2.93	90	8
Yellow	1.74	20	9
White	1.37	20	9

Safety

Significant cliffs and rocky areas are present on the map so be sure to use caution when navigating near them. Cadets also seem to have a strange affinity for digging foxholes in the woods, so keep an eye on your footing. Be sure to hydrate continuously throughout the day; all courses have at least one water point. All courses cross some form of a road/firebreak, and there should only be minimal traffic present, but be sure to look before you cross. There will be medical personnel at the finish if you need it. They will be able to provide aid for any type of injury so feel free to ask them for help. Should you become completely disoriented, the safety bearing is Southeast. You will run into a major road (Rt. 293). Follow it Northeast until you arrive at Bull Pond Road, on the left-hand side of the road. The finish is located about 50 meters down this road to the left.

I hope that you enjoying running these courses as much as I enjoyed designing and setting them. This is the first A-meet for which I have been the sole course setter; what an experience it has been! I would like to extend my thanks to MAJ Jonathan Campbell and LTC Michael Hendricks; without their assistance there is no way these courses would have happened. I look forward to hearing your comments at the finish—feedback is great because it allows for me and the rest of the club to continue to improve the quality of our A-meet. Thank you for coming out and Good Luck!

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Course Notes: Camp Natural Bridge (Day 1) Sprint

All Courses: **1:5000, 2.5m**

The courses will share a common spectator control that is in the vicinity of both the start and finish areas. This should make for some exciting viewing. Also, be sure to mind the embargo areas prior to the running of the sprint—controls are everywhere here. In fact, there are several areas with a high concentration of controls. All controls will be placed on a stand with the e-punch. There will be a manual punch on each stand in case of an e-punch malfunction.

Course	Length (Km)	Climb (m)	Controls
Red/Blue	3.1	80	20
Orange/Brown/Green	2.5	60	16
White/Yellow	1.35	30	10

Safety

The Sprint courses occur in and around Camp Natural Bridge. The roads in this area are more heavily traveled than elsewhere on the USMA reservation, so keep your eyes open for any rouge vehicles when crossing them. Be sure to continue to hydrate. There will be medical personnel at the finish if you need it. Any types of injury will be able to be treated. The woods here are a little more open, but not by too much. Most courses will take you through an area containing an obstacle course. Controls may be hung in or around the structures on the obstacle course, but please do not climb on these structures for your own safety.

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Course Notes: Bog Meadow Pond (Day 2) Classic

All Courses: 1:10000, 5m

This area contains an increased prevalence of blueberry bushes throughout the area and leg protection is strongly recommended for the advanced courses. Like yesterday, there are several areas with a high concentration of controls. All controls will be placed on a stand with the e-punch. There will be a manual punch on each stand in case of an e-punch malfunction. It is my opinion that this map contains an area with the best and most technical terrain that the entire West Point reservation has to offer. These courses will be a balance between shorter, more technical legs in this area and longer legs where a good route choice will be greatly rewarding.

At various times on the advanced courses, you will approach the boundary of the USMA reservation. In some areas, there is a firebreak along the boundary, in other areas it is unmarked or loosely marked with paint blazes on trees, or with signs that say: "United States Military Academy, No Trespassing..." You may cross these boundaries during this meet. If you encounter signs saying "Impact / Dud Area, Keep Out," obey them (for your safety) and start moving on the safety azimuth, because you are many kilometers off the map!

Course	Length (km)	Climb (m)	Controls
Blue	10.38	360	18
Red	6.95	275	14
Green X	5.8	225	11
Green Y	5.72	235	11
Brown	4.38	155	10
Orange	3.71	140	9
Yellow	2.67	95	11
White	1.85	70	9

Safety

This is West Point. There are a lot of cliffs and rocky areas present on the map so be sure to use caution when navigating near them. Be sure to hydrate continuously throughout the day. Most courses will have 2 or 3 water controls. Please let us know if any water points begin to get low on water so that we can restock them. All courses cross some form of a road/trail, and there should only be minimal traffic present, but be sure to look before you cross. At the finish will be medical personnel to treat any injury you may have sustained while on the course. Should you become completely disoriented, the safety bearing is Southeast. You will run into a major roadway (Rt. 293), although you'll probably hit the Round Pond area before reaching it. If not, follow it and the signs to Round Pond.

Neal J. Trump
Course Designer/Setter