



Empire Orienteering Club

Annual Meeting
July 8, 2023 at Berne

Meeting called to order by President Laszlo Kolyvek at 3:20 PM. He thanked Phil and Sue Hawkes-Teeter for hosting. In addition, the following were present: Phil and Sue Hawkes-Teeter, Janet Findlay, David Hunter, Robert Lange, Dylan Thies, Gabor Bobok, Olle Hedman, William Kennerly, and Eric Hamilton.

One of the most memorable events of the year was the North American Ski Orienteering Championships held in the Saranac Lake area in conjunction with the Empire State Winter Games. Janet Findlay reported that an astounding 91 participant registered and most participated in at least one of the three events. The weather was most challenging with record low temperatures and windchill on Friday, continued cold on Saturday, but moderated in the afternoon, and then reached above freezing before events were wrapped up on Sunday. That made it challenging to host and difficult to wax. She and David Hunter thanked all the volunteers, without whom the event could not have taken place, and proposed holding a three day event format for the Empire State Games again this coming season. They recommended in their post-event report that OUSA underwrite any non-refundable expenses for future national ski-o competitions, and that a Brown course be added for the F60+ and M70+ classes.

Minutes from Last Meeting: Since no corrections were offered to the minutes of the September 24, 2022, meeting the minutes were accepted by acclamation.

Elections: Having no nominations from the floor Eric Hamilton moved that current officers be re-elected including Laszlo Kolyvek, President; Gabor Bobak, vice president; Eric Hamilton, Secretary; and Cynthia Johnson, Treasurer; Sue Hawkes-Teeter second, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Laszlo Kolyvek read Cynthia Johnson's report that we have a checking account balance of \$9,671; and \$12,064 in savings for a total net worth of \$21,735. David Hunter recommended that we streamline our membership fees, provide an incentive for members to participate in as many events as possible, and streamline event registration by offering free registration at all local foot-O meets for members. He moved we charge \$20 for junior membership; \$40 for individual; and \$60 for family. If a new membership or renewing after July then 1.5 times for payment through the following year. Dylan Thies second, carried. Non-member event registration would remain \$10.

Equipment and Software: Laszlo Kolyvek reported that we have nine SIAC dibblers (SPORTident Air Card for contactless punching) for rentals; a countdown race clock is coming; At least 14 flags need to be retired, and, if unable to repair one printer we may need to replace. These expenses are minimal and will be approved by the executive committee. David Hunter noted that the club has a license for OCAD2018 that any member can use for mapping. This generates georeferenced maps with ability to import tracking files from other devices. He also recommended OCAD Sketch.

Mapping Initiatives: Phil Hawkes-Teeter reported that Dyken Pond is progressing; he is updating the Lapland Lake map so it is geo-referenced and usable for December season kick off event. David Hunter pointed out that Cascade ski touring center is adding new trails; and Craigwood Golf course is adding terrain.

Schedule: Phil Hawkes-Teeter reported that we have a full schedule of fall events starting with

- Sept 16 at Niskayuna Parks (Lock 7) hosted by Kevin and Sidney Fisher;
- Sept 30 at Tawasentha Score O host Bob Lange;
- Oct 21 at Pleasant Valley host Phil Hawkes-Teeter; and
- Nov 11 Club Champs at Grafton Lakes host Laszlo Kolyvek.

Ski O Plans: As a target for completing the Lapland Lake map Phil Hawkes-Teeter is planning to host a Ski O meet in mid December. Eric Hamilton will contact Aimes Coney about an event at Garnet Hill. Janet Findlay said that the Empire State Winter Games are scheduled for February 3 - 5.

Potential NRE bid: Phil Hawkes-Teeter offered to direct a meet assuming he can get help with details.

Publicity: Susan Hawkes-Teeter reminded meet directors to forward details of upcoming events to Robert Lange as early as possible so he can crank up his highly effective publicity.

Published: Susan Hawkes-Teeter also noted that Frank Boscoe, member of EMPO before he moved a few years ago to Maine, has self-published a fictional account of a 24 hour rogaine (orienteering on a huge map) which I found quite entertaining. Anyone who has done much orienteering might enjoy it as well. It is called *The Rogainers*. EMPO purchased one copy which has been loaned out for the summer but will be available at the meets this fall.

Adjournment: Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 PM on a motion by Robert Lange, Eric Hamilton second.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Hamilton
Secretary