



# ORIENTEERING

## Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Explain what orienteering is.
- 2)
  - A) Point out and name five major terrain features on a map and in the field.
  - B) Point out and name 10 symbols often found on a topographic map.
- 3)
  - A) Explain how a compass works. Describe the features of an orienteering compass and their uses
  - B) In the field, show how to take a compass bearing and how to follow one.
- 4)
  - A) Explain the meaning of declination. Tell why declination must be taken into consideration when using a map and compass together.
  - B) Provide a topographic map of your area with magnetic north-south lines.
  - C) Show how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass.
- 5)
  - A) Show how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass.
  - B) Set up a 300m pace course. Figure out your running pace for 100 meters
- 6)
  - A) Explain a descriptive clue. Tell how it is used in orienteering.
  - B) Explain how to use an attack point. Describe the offset technique. Tell what is meant by collecting features.
- 7) Do the following:
  - A) Take part in three orienteering events. One of these must be a cross-country course.
  - B) After each course, write a report with:
    - 1) A copy of the master map and descriptive clues.
    - 2) A copy of the route you took on the course.
    - 3) A discussion of how you could improve your time between points, and
    - 4) List of your major weaknesses on this courseDescribe what you could do to improve.
- 8) Do ONE of the following:
  - A) Set up a cross-country course of at least 2,000 meters long with five control markers. Prepare the master map. Mark the descriptive clues.
  - B) Set up a score-orienteering course with 12 points and a time limit of 60 minutes. Prepare the master map. Set the descriptive clues and point value for each control on this course.
- 9) Act as an official during an orienteering event. (This may be during the running of the course you set up for requirement 8.)
- 10) Teach orienteering techniques to your patrol, troop or post.

### Requirement 1

Explain what orienteering is: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Requirement 2

Point out and name five major terrain features on a map and in the field. Try to point out different features for both. List the features you pointed out:

On a Map:

\_\_\_\_\_

In the Field:

\_\_\_\_\_

Point out and name ten symbols often found on a topographic map. List them below:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Requirement 3

How does a compass work? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Use the area below to list the features found on an orienteering compass. Give a brief description or explanation of its use:

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

Feature: \_\_\_\_\_ Use: \_\_\_\_\_

In the field you are to show how to take a compass bearing and how to follow one. Demonstrate this to your counselor. Give a brief explanation below of how to take a compass bearing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Requirement 4

What is declination? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why must declination be taken into considerations when using a map and compass together? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide a topographic map of your area. Make sure the map has magnetic north-south lines. Show it to your counselor then attach it to this worksheet for future reference.

Describe how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrate to your counselor how to transfer a direction on a map to your compass.

#### Requirement 5

Describe how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Demonstrate to your counselor how to measure distances, using a scale on an orienteering compass.

Set up a 300m pace course. Use the area below to draw a map of your course, or attach a copy of your map to the worksheet:



Figure out your running pace for 100 meters and enter it here: \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 6

What is a descriptive clue? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How is a descriptive clue used in orienteering? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is an attack point? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Explain how to use an attack point: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the offset technique: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is meant by collecting features? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 7

Take part in three orienteering events. One of these events must be a cross-country course.

After taking part in the three orienteering events, use the forms below to write a report of each experience.

### *COURSE 1*

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? \_\_\_\_\_

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

What was your time on this course? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the distance of the course? \_\_\_\_\_

***COURSE 2***

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? \_\_\_\_\_

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? \_\_\_\_\_

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: \_\_\_\_\_

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

What was your time on this course? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the distance of the course? \_\_\_\_\_

***COURSE 3***

Attach a copy of the master map and descriptive clues for this course.

What were some of the descriptive clues used? \_\_\_\_\_

On the attached master map of the course, highlight the route you took on the course.

How do you think you could improve your time between points? \_\_\_\_\_

What were some of your major weaknesses on this course? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what you could do to improve on this specific course: \_\_\_\_\_

Where was this course set up (Scout camp, Scout unit activity, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

What was your time on this course? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the distance of the course? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you see an improvement in your skills and times after all three courses were finished? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what you could do to improve your orienteering skills: \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirement 8

You have been given two options for this requirement. Select and complete one of them.

*\*Extra Mile (not required for merit badge) If possible, plan ahead and get help setting up your course for use at the summer camp your Scout unit will attend.*

If you selected **Option A**:

Set up a cross-country course of at least 2,000 meters long with five control markers. Give a description of your course: \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the whereabouts of the control markers on your course: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mark the descriptive clues. List the descriptive clues you used here: \_\_\_\_\_

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Prepare the master map for your cross-country course. Attach your map to this worksheet. Make sure your map shows the five control markers and also the descriptive clues.

If you selected **Option B**:

Set up a score-orienteeing course with 12 points and a time limit of 60 minutes. Give a description of your course: \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the whereabouts of the 12 points on your course: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mark the descriptive clues on your map. List the descriptive clues and their point values: \_\_\_\_\_

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Prepare the master map for your cross-country course. Attach your map to this worksheet. Make sure your map shows twelve points and the descriptive clues.

