

The orienteering course you are about to follow is mostly on interconnecting trails that will bring you back to the general area of the Nature Center and its parking lot. There are, however, some short forays off of the trail included to make the course a bit more interesting, so you should be prepared for that. The course is approx. (6.1 km or 3.7 miles) in its entirety. This is rather long as well as hilly for a beginner level course of its type, so feel free to attempt just a portion of it if your time or fitness level will not allow you to complete it all today.

The object of orienteering is to navigate efficiently to a series of land features that are represented on a detailed topographic map. The land features that you will seek are described for you on a *clue sheet*, which you see illustrated below. The clue sheet contains both symbols and a narrative description of the feature, but typically it only provides symbols. A land feature can be any reasonably permanent, clear and distinct object identifiable on the land or that identifies the type of landscape –a bridge, boulder, gully, stream, field, building, etc. To confirm that you have found the correct feature you will find an orienteering *control* marker at that feature. For this course, the control marker is a 4x4 inch square plate that contains an opposing orange and white triangle on it. In its lower left corner it also contains a two letter code that coordinates to an identical code on your clue sheet. This confirms that you are at the land feature that you sought. Some are on posts. Others are above head height on trees.

It is helpful to orienteer with a compass, but for beginner level courses (truly all courses) the map typically contains more than enough information that allows you to navigate successfully from point to point. Keeping in touch with your map –meaning, frequently examining the area of the map as you move along and seeing those features on the landscape around you– will typically keep you found. And that’s always a good thing.

Brecksville All Seasons Course						
Length: 6.1 km or 3.7 mile						
Start						Start Building
1 YA						Building South side
2 HA						Path Ditch Crossing
3 RA						Boulder cluster
4 FA						Footbridge North end
5 AA						Re-entrant Upper part
6 QA						Path Path Junction
7 JA						Re-entrant Upper part
8 BA						Re-entrant Upper part
9 GA						Footbridge Southeast end
10 DA						Boulder cluster
11 LA						Path Path Junction
12 VA						Boulder cluster
13 KA						Path Vegetation boundary SW end
14 TA						Path Path Crossing

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We hope you enjoy your experience! If you have questions about orienteering or our local club, go to <http://www.neooc.com/>

Thank you

North Eastern Ohio
Orienteering Club

Hint: a re-entrant is a place where water flows. It is larger than a ditch or gully.