

# Patapsco McKeldin

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**February 22  
Sunday**



**Pre-registration will be required for this event ... if, and only if, we are allowed to hold it (check back later in the week!).**

Continue to challenge our winter weather by orienteering! We hope to see lots of folks out to experience McKeldin's hilly terrain and courses set by first time course designer David Cynamon. The McKeldin area of Patapsco hasn't been visited by QOC for several years, and David has a full set of courses planned (2 beginner, 1 intermediate, 5 advanced). Detailed course notes are posted below.

*Please note that Patapsco Valley State Park has a strict rain policy, which will force us to postpone or cancel the event in case of more than 1/4" of precipitation within the 24 hours preceding the event. This may include snow/ice melt, so please check the event status on this webpage late Saturday evening and/or early Sunday morning before traveling to the meet. If we cancel the event, we will fully refund all registration payments.*

**UPDATE as of 10am Thursday: Permit has been denied; this event is cancelled.**

## **Volunteer**

We're always looking for new and seasoned volunteers to help our events run smoothly! If you have a little time to spare, join the crew by signing up via [this form](#) [2] or email the [Event Director](#) [3] directly.

## **What to Expect**

Participants will navigate through diverse terrains, including wooded areas, open fields, and waterways, using a map and compass. This event is designed to test your navigation skills, endurance, and for groups, teamwork. Various courses will be available to accommodate all skill levels:

- *Beginner Courses: Perfect for newcomers, offering a gentle introduction to orienteering with*



*straightforward checkpoints and kid-friendly terrain. Beginner Instruction will be available.*

- *Intermediate Course: A bit more challenging, great for those with some orienteering experience looking to improve their skills.*
- *Advanced Courses: For experienced orienteers seeking a rigorous and demanding course with complex navigation.*

### **What to Bring**

- *Comfortable outdoor clothing and sturdy footwear appropriate for the weather.*
- *Water bottle and snacks.*
- *Compass and whistle if you have them. Loaners are available if needed.*
- *Dogs are permitted at this event but must be leashed at all times.*

### **Park Entrance Fee**

*There is a park entrance fee (\$2 per vehicle for MD residents and \$4 per vehicle for others, \$10 per bus (holding more than 9 passengers). Bring exact change since the park entrance fee will likely be collected using an honor system, and a ranger may not be on duty to provide change. Please remember to pay the fee - our future use of the park will be compromised if there is a gross mismatch between number of participants and collected fees.*

### **Parking and Check-in Details**

*Check-in is at shelter 576 near the disc golf course. Check-in will open about 9:45am and courses will open at 10:00am. There is a sizable parking lot near the shelter, and an overflow area on the far side of the disc golf course. Follow the signs to the parking area once you enter the park. Portable toilets will be set up in the parking lot.*

*Everyone must be out of the woods and back at the registration/finish area by 3:00pm when we will begin picking up the controls. Allow yourself time to get back to the registration area and download regardless of whether you have finished. We want to make sure of everyone's safety and status.*

### **Starting System (for 10-11am starts)**

*The Start crew for our upcoming [US Nationals](#) [4] will practice using an electronic starting system from 10 - 11am. Here's what to expect:*

- *All courses will use an NRE-style multi-stage starting system at the start location. Orienteers on the same course will start at least 2-minutes apart.*
- *When you arrive at the start area, tell the volunteer which course you are running. They will direct you to the proper waiting area.*
- *When it's your turn, you will be called to the first line, where a volunteer will verify it's your turn.*
- *One minute later, step up to the second line.*
- *One minute later, step forward to the start line to clear and check.*
- *One minute later, punch the start and begin your course.*

*Our normal starting system for local events will resume at 11am, so if you'd rather just start your course as normal, please plan to start after that.*

### **Groups**

*QOC allows groups of up to 4 people to orienteer together. Any youth or large groups attending this event should contact the [Event Director](#) [3] in advance so that we can coordinate pre-registration for your group. Details and the required waiver form can be found on our [For Group Leaders](#) [5] webpage.*

### **Beginners**

*As mentioned, beginner instruction will be offered. If you are new to orienteering, welcome! Please make sure to check out our [Your First Event](#) [6] and [For Beginners](#) [7] webpages. Beginners are also encouraged to watch relevant videos such as [this one](#) [8] created by QOC's instructional guru David Onkst. If you still have remaining questions, just use our [Contact](#) [9] Form and ask.*

### **Location**

*Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, Shelter 576, Marriottsville, MD (CANCELLED)*



**Registration**

UPDATE as of 10am Thursday: No permit ... No event.

**Start Times**

Start times will be by windows (to be defined for this event before registration opens).

**Schedule**

**Sunday, February 22** 10:00 CANCELLED:  
am -  
3:00  
pm

**Volunteers**

Event [Jenny Kuenz](#) [10]

Director:

Course [David Cynamon](#) [11]

Designer:

**Location Details**

**CANCELLED** From I-695/I-70 West take I-70 to Marriottsville Patapsco Rd. (Exit 83). Go North on Valley State Marriottsville Rd. for 4 Park miles to the park McKeldin entrance on the right. Area, After paying park Shelter 576 entrance fees, follow Marriottsvill O-signs to shelter #576. e, MD From I-70 East take Rt. 40 (Exit 82, Balt. Natl. Pike) to Marriottsville Rd. Turn left. Park entrance is 5 miles on the right. After paying park entrance fees, follow O-signs to shelter #576.

[Google Maps Link](#) [12]

[Apple/iPhone Link](#) [13]

**Course Details**

<b>CANCELLED</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Length (km)</b>	<b>Climb (m)</b>	<b>No. Controls</b>
	White	2.1	75	8
	Yellow	2.8	100	10
	Orange	4.2	190	11
	Beige	2.2	115	5
	Brown	3.6	160	8
	Green	4.4	195	9
	Red	7.6	390	14
	Blue	8.4	475	19

**Course Notes**