

Merli-Sarnoski Park

Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

SCALE
1:5,000

CONTOURS
5 meters

BEGINNER COURSE

0 meters 300

Orienteering
USA

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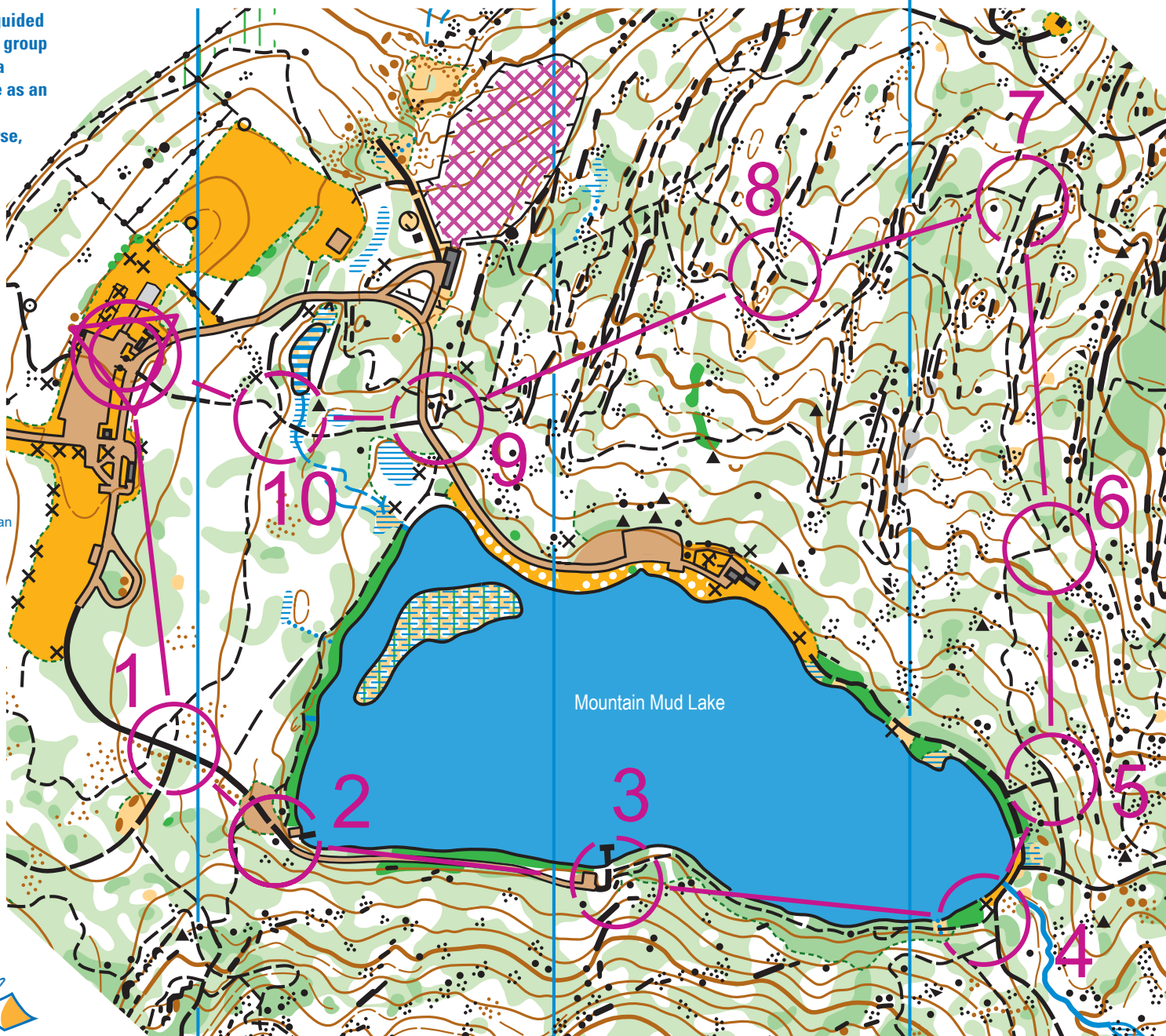
Blue meridian lines point to Magnetic North. No correction required for declination.

Photogrammetry:
Matthew Robins and Petr Hartman
Fieldwork and Drafting:
Vladimir Zherdev
Course Design, 2025:
Sandy Fillebrown
Course Installation:
DVOA and Park Volunteers
Brochure Graphics:
Bob Agosta

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Delaware Valley Orienteering Association



Map scale is accurate when printed on an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet size.

05/2025

Merli-Sarnoski Park

Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania



Merli-Sarnoski Park Permanent Orienteering Course Control Sheet									
Beginner Course (Moderate)				2.5 km distance (1.6 miles)				60m climb (197 feet)	
Control # / Letter Code				Control Descriptions				Control Descriptions (Text)	
▷		S/F		▨			○	Parking Lot, Northeast Side	
1	31		↘	↗	↖	↙	○	Southeastern Road Path Junction, Southwest Side	
2	32			▲		0.5	○	Boulder, East Side 0.5 Meter Height	
3	33		↑	▩		2.0	○	Northern Cliff, North Foot 2.0 Meter Height	
4	34		↖	▩			Q	Northwestern Thicket Southeast Edge	
5	35			↗	↖	↙	○	Path Path Junction Northwest Side	
6	36			↗		↖	○	Path Bend, Northeast Side	
7	37			↗	↖	↙	○	Path Path Junction Southwest Side	
8	38		→	▩		1.0	○	Eastern Cliff, Northeast Foot 1.0 Meter Height	
9	39		↖	▩		1.0	○	Southwestern Cliff, Southwest Foot, 1.0 Meter Height	
10	40			↗	↖	✕	○	Path Path Crossing Northwest Side	
				140m (459 feet) to Finish					

Note:

Merli-Sarnoski Park offers three different orienteering course maps to fit your skill level - Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. All courses begin and end at the start/finish (S/F) control post shown on the map as a purple triangle and double circle.

Scouting America:

Scouts who need an orienteering course to complete First Class requirement 4a can use the Beginner Course. Scouts must also demonstrate measuring the height and/or width of designated features in the landscape to complete requirement 4a. Scouts who need a second course for the Orienteering Merit Badge should complete the Intermediate or Advanced course.

To check control letter codes, mail a copy of your noted course control sheet to: DVOA, 14 Lake Drive, Spring City, PA 19475.

Please include your phone, email, and mailing address for a reply.

After completing this course, please try one of our local weekend events for a complete orienteering experience!

MAP LEGEND

	paved road
	pavement, gravel
	dirt road
	vehicle trail
	large foot path
	small foot path
	indistinct path
	narrow ride
	stone wall
	ruined stone wall
	fence
	ruined fence
	uncrossable fence
	power line
	building
	ruin
	hunter's stand, misc. object
	cairn, rocky pit, tower
	boulder: small, large
	passable cliff
	impassable cliff
	boulder field, stony ground
	contours, form line
	gully, dry ditch
	small knoll, depression
	pit, broken ground
	earth bank
	earth wall
	ruined earth wall
	rootstock*, charcoal terrace*
	stream: wide, small
	small pond
	spring, waterhole, well
	lake, uncrossable river
	intermittent stream
	narrow marsh
	marsh, diffuse marsh
	open land, rough open
	open with scattered trees
	rough open with scattered trees
	vegetation: forest, slow run
	vegetation: walk, fight
	undergrowth: slow run, walk
	distinct vegetation boundary
	cultivated land, distinct tree
	park boundary, out of bounds
	* not an IOF symbol



Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Date Course Completed _____

Start Time: _____ End Time: _____



Delaware Valley Orienteering Association

14 Lake Drive, Spring City, PA 19475
frankdvoa@aol.com, 610.792.0502
www.dvoa.org

ORIENTEERING - What is it?

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INFORMATION

Merli-Sarnoski Park, dedicated in 1978, is named after Lackawanna County Congressional Medal of Honor recipients Gino Merli and Joseph Sarnoski. The 840-acre park features lake swimming, fishing and sports facilities but is also known for its wide expanse of untouched natural beauty.

For information about park activities, contact:

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Congratulations and thank you for participating!

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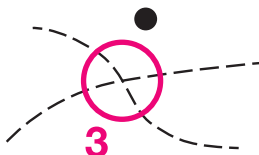
1. Reference the course control sheet for course distance and total course climb. The course begins near the main Pavilion, indicated on the map with a triangle symbol. The course ends at the start location, indicated on the map with a double circle symbol.

2. Familiarize yourself with the map before you begin.

NOTE: Familiarization with the map relative to the fields, roads, and features shown is easier if you hold the map flat in front of you and rotate it until it is "oriented" to the terrain. Magnetic North lines will help if you have a compass, but you will find that the map is detailed enough that you may not need one on this course.

3. Set out to visit the controls in the sequence outlined on the map starting at the start triangle and proceeding towards control #1. Upon reaching each control, record, on the course control sheet provided, the letter code shown on the marker post placard (see illustrations to the right). You may also want to time yourself from start to finish.

As an example, consider an imaginary control #3, marked on the map as shown below:



Referring to the map legend, you note that the control location, the point at the center of the circle, seems to be crossing between two paths. To confirm the terrain feature on which the control is located, look at the description and feature symbols provided on the sample control sheet shown below.

Permanent Orienteering Course Control Sheet					
Short Course		2.2 km distance (1.4 miles)		27m climb (90 feet)	
Control # / Letter Code		Control Descriptions		Control Descriptions (Text)	
▷		■		Start Triangle Building (Park Office)	
1		/	/	Road Junction	
2		▲	1.7	Boulder, 1.7m Height, North Side	
3		/	X	Trail Crossing	

Suppose, after a fairly challenging and satisfying amount of navigation, you finally arrive at the vicinity of control #3. To your delight, you sight it precisely where it should be: at the foot path trail junction.



Take a closer look; you will notice the control number and letter code on the marker post placard.



By recording the letter code in the appropriate box on the control sheet, you provide proof of your visit to the control for later verification.

2	A		▲	
3	H		/	/

That's it! You're off to your next control, and so on to the finish.



SAFETY NOTES

At a moderate pace, the Beginner course at Merli-Sarnoski Park can ordinarily be completed within 45-60 minutes. It is wise to take this into consideration, especially when setting off towards dusk.

On the remote chance you become hopelessly disoriented, make your way down to the lake and follow the lake shore trail around to the access road. Remember that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Some areas of the park may be hazardous. We told the Park Rangers we would remind you that you are responsible for you and your groups' safety.

Merli-Sarnoski Park

Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

SCALE

1:7,500

CONTOURS

5 meters

INTERMEDIATE COURSE



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frankdvoa@aol.com, 610.792.0502

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Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania



Merli-Sarnoski Park										
Permanent Orienteering Course Control Sheet										
Intermediate Course (Difficult)				3.6 km distance (2.2 miles)				150m climb (492 feet)		
Control # / Letter Code				Control Descriptions				Control Descriptions (Text)		
▷		S/F		▨			○	Parking Lot, Northeast Side		
1	31		↘	↗	↖	↙	○	Southeastern Road Path Junction, Southwest Side		
2	41		→	↪			○	Eastern Spur Northwestern Part		
3	42			▲		1.0	○	Boulder, Southwest Side 1.0 Meter Height		
4	60			▬		2.0	⊖	Cliff, West Foot 2.0 Meter Height		
5	43		↑	▲		0.5	⊙	Northern Boulder, West Side 0.5 Meter Height		
6	45			⌒				Re-entrant, Upper Part		
7	46			○			○	Middle Hill, Northwest Side		
8	47			▬		3.0	T	Lower Cliff, North End 3.0 Meter Height		
9	48			○			○	Hill, Northeast Part		
10	39		↙	▬		1.0	⊖	Southwestern Cliff, Southwest Foot, 1.0 Meter Height		
11	40			↘	↖	×	○	Path Path Crossing Northwest Side		
				140m (459 feet) to Finish						

Note:

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Scouting America:

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MAP LEGEND

	paved road
	pavement, gravel
	dirt road
	vehicle trail
	large foot path
	small foot path
	indistinct path
	narrow ride
	stone wall
	ruined stone wall
	fence
	ruined fence
	uncrossable fence
	power line
	building
	ruin
	hunter's stand, misc. object
	cairn, rocky pit, tower
	boulder: small, large
	passable cliff
	impassable cliff
	boulder field, stony ground
	contours, form line
	gully, dry ditch
	small knoll, depression
	pit, broken ground
	earth bank
	earth wall
	ruined earth wall
	rootstock*, charcoal terrace*
	stream: wide, small
	small pond
	spring, waterhole, well
	lake, uncrossable river
	intermittent stream
	narrow marsh
	marsh, diffuse marsh
	open land, rough open
	open with scattered trees
	rough open with scattered trees
	vegetation: forest, slow run
	vegetation: walk, fight
	undergrowth: slow run, walk
	distinct vegetation boundary
	cultivated land, distinct tree
	park boundary, out of bounds
	* not an IOF symbol



Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Email _____

Date Course Completed _____

Phone _____

Start Time: _____ End Time: _____



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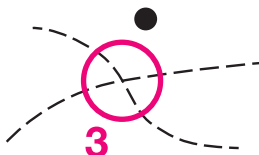
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As an example, consider an imaginary control #3, marked on the map as shown below:



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Permanent Orienteering Course Control Sheet					
Short Course		2.2 km distance (1.4 miles)		27m climb (90 feet)	
Control # / Letter Code		Control Descriptions		Control Descriptions (Text)	
▷		■		Start Triangle Building (Park Office)	
1		/	/	Road Junction	
2		▲	1.7	Boulder, 1.7m Height, North Side	
3		/	X	Trail Crossing	

Suppose, after a fairly challenging and satisfying amount of navigation, you finally arrive at the vicinity of control #3. To your delight, you sight it precisely where it should be: at the foot path trail junction.



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2	A		▲	
3	H		/	/

That's it! You're off to your next control, and so on to the finish.



SAFETY NOTES

At a moderate pace, the Beginner course at Merli-Sarnoski Park can ordinarily be completed within 45-60 minutes. It is wise to take this into consideration, especially when setting off towards dusk.

On the remote chance you become hopelessly disoriented, make your way down to the lake and follow the lake shore trail around to the access road. Remember that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Some areas of the park may be hazardous. We told the Park Rangers we would remind you that you are responsible for you and your groups' safety.

Merli-Sarnoski Park

Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

SCALE
1:10,000

CONTOURS
5 meters

ADVANCED COURSE

0 meters 300



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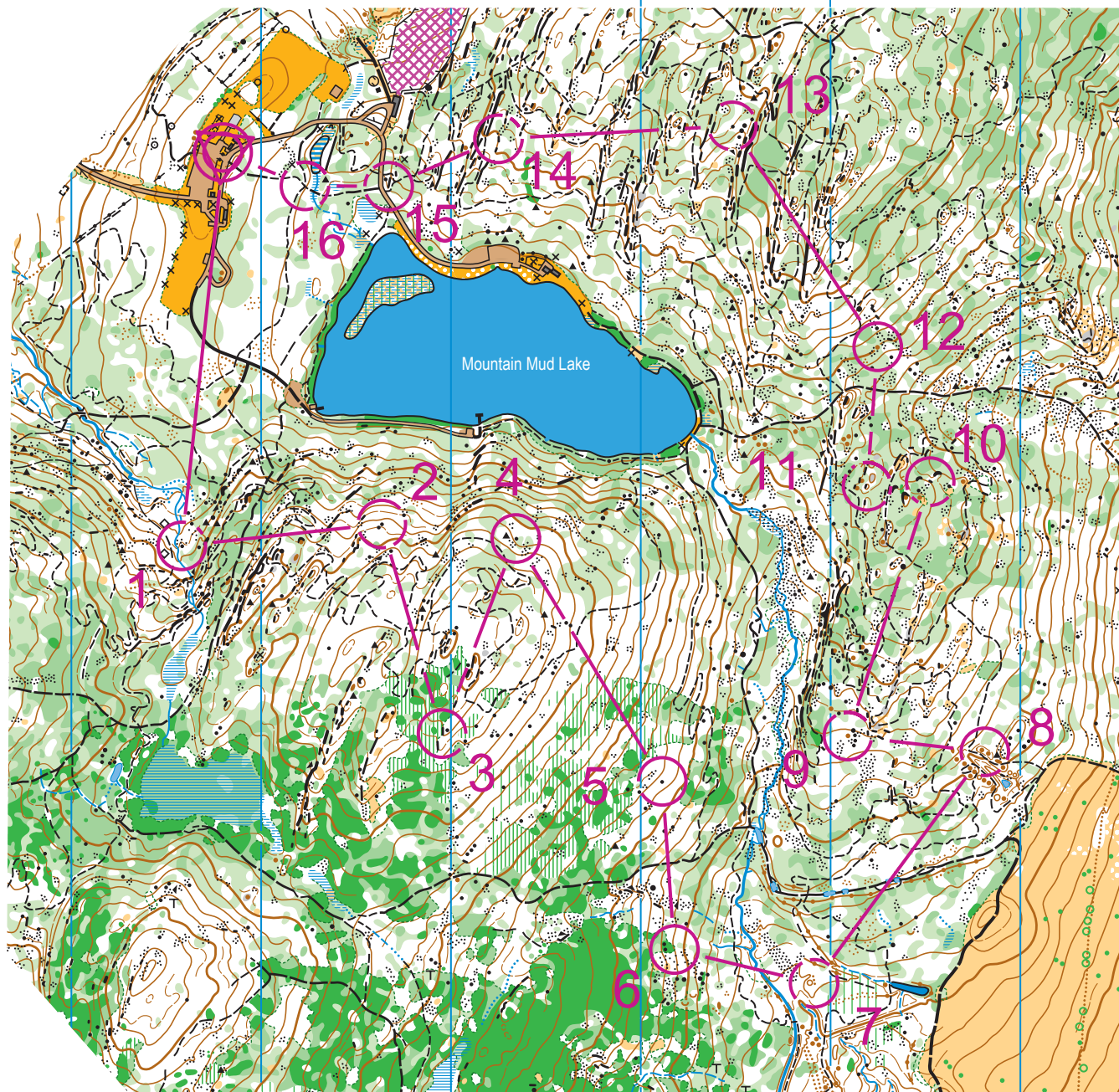
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Merli-Sarnoski Park

Fell Township, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania



Merli-Sarnoski Park Permanent Orienteering Course Control Sheet									
Advanced Course (Most Difficult)			5.2 km distance (3.2 miles)				200m climb (656 feet)		
Control # / Letter Code			Control Descriptions				Control Descriptions (Text)		
▷		S/F							
1	42			▲		1.0			Parking Lot, Northeast Side
2	50			▲	▲	0.5			Boulder, Southwest Side 1.0 Meter Height
3	44		↗	≡		1.5			Boulder Boulder, West Side 0.5 Meter Height
4	54			▲		1.0/1.4			Northeastern Cliff, South Foot 1.5 Meter Height
5	55			▲		0.8			Boulder, East Side 1.0 to 1.4 Meter Height
6	56			⋯					Boulder, Southwest Side 0.8 Meter Height
7	53			▤					Vegetation Boundary, East Side
8	52			•	•				Erosion Gully, South End
9	51			•					Knoll Knoll, Between
10	59			≡		1.2			Knoll, West Side
11	46			○					Middle Cliff, Foot 1.2 Meter Height
12	57			•		1.5			Middle Hill, Northwest Side
13	58		←	▲		1.2			Knoll, East Side 1.5 Meter Height
14	49			≡		1.0			Western Boulder, Northeast Side, 1.2 Meter Height
15	39		↗	≡		1.0			Middle Cliff, Foot 1.0 Meter Height
16	40		↗	↘	×				Southwestern Cliff, Southwest Foot, 1.0 Meter Height
⊗			140m (459 feet) to Finish				⊗		

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	uncrossable fence
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	building
	ruin
	hunter's stand, misc. object
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	boulder: small, large
	passable cliff
	impassable cliff
	boulder field, stony ground
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	gully, dry ditch
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	earth wall
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	rootstock*, charcoal terrace*
	stream: wide, small
	small pond
	spring, waterhole, well
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	intermittent stream
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	marsh, diffuse marsh
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	rough open with scattered trees
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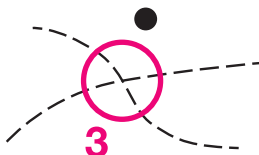
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Short Course		2.2 km distance (1.4 miles)		27m climb (90 feet)	
Control # / Letter Code		Control Descriptions		Control Descriptions (Text)	
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1		/	/	Road Junction	
2		▲	1.7	Boulder, 1.7m Height, North Side	
3		/	X	Trail Crossing	

Suppose, after a fairly challenging and satisfying amount of navigation, you finally arrive at the vicinity of control #3. To your delight, you sight it precisely where it should be: at the foot path trail junction.



Take a closer look; you will notice the control number and letter code on the marker post placard.



By recording the letter code in the appropriate box on the control sheet, you provide proof of your visit to the control for later verification.

2	A		▲	
3	H		/	/

That's it! You're off to your next control, and so on to the finish.



SAFETY NOTES

At a moderate pace, the Beginner course at Merli-Sarnoski Park can ordinarily be completed within 45-60 minutes. It is wise to take this into consideration, especially when setting off towards dusk.

On the remote chance you become hopelessly disoriented, make your way down to the lake and follow the lake shore trail around to the access road. Remember that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Some areas of the park may be hazardous. We told the Park Rangers we would remind you that you are responsible for you and your groups' safety.