

Plano Oak Point/Bob Woodruff Score-O 2024

Course Setter Notes

Controls

All controls will be scattered across the 800 acres of Oak Point Park, and the North end of Bob Woodruff. This year, about 45 controls will be in Oak Point and 10-15 controls will be in Bob Woodruff. We will not be using the South end of Bob Woodruff so all controls will be North of Park Road.

In addition to the standard orange and white bags, there should be orange and yellow ribbons. One of the ribbons will be identified with NTOA.com and the event date.

For this Score-O, the controls are worth various points, depending on where they are located. Usually, the farther away or harder to get to, the higher the value. The control number on the map will match the last two digits of the control bag. The point value is determined by the first digit of the map control (or second digit of the bag number). So, bag 324 is map control 24, and is worth 20 points. Your punch card will have 60 slots, 30 on each edge, so make sure you punch the correct edge of the card.

Terrain and Vegetation

For a change from the last several years, the terrain varies from mowed fairways with ponds, recently mowed tall grass prairies, to much more open forests, with occasional thickets. The forest trails are nice, compacted clay when dry, or a slick, gooey, sticky mess when wet (so let's hope it's dry). All the previously green ground cover has died back or is brown and dormant. Now, you can actually see people walking other trails through the forest, rather than the usual 5 meter sightline in high weeds, tall grass, poison ivy, green briars, thickets, and various other undergrowth.

Water Features and Weather

Rowlett Creek runs North/South through the park and is uncrossable except at the three foot-bridges at the North, middle, and South ends of Oak Point, and the two foot-bridges in the North part of Bob Woodruff. There are also sidewalks on Parker and Park Road bridges. There is no swimming in the ponds, but you are welcome to bring your kayak, canoe, or paddleboard (however, there are no points floating in the lakes).

Out-of-Bounds

Do NOT cross over the perimeter roads.

Watch for construction at the Oak Point NE corner and Bob Woodruff SW corner.

The parks are bounded by Jupiter on the North, Spring Creek on the West, Park Road on the South, and San Gabriel (BW) and Los Rios (OP) on the East.

Keep clear of the bird houses scattered around the parks.

Map

Special man-made items are represented by black O's or X's. A black 'O' can be a tall lamp post, bike repair station, or a prominent birdhouse on a post. A black 'X' may be a sign or kiosk, large piece of rusty

debris, utility box, park bench, playground equipment, fireplace/pit, small monument, etc. Basically any permanent miscellaneous man-made object.

You will be receiving one map, with all controls marked on the map, which you can visit in any order. Again, make sure the control number on the map, matches the control number on the punch card, and matches the last two digits on the control bag.

Hazards

Watch out for bikes on the paved trails and occasional runners on the larger forest trails. Watch out for green briars in the woods, marshy areas, and forest edges. All the wild animals are usually napping during the day so you probably won't see any of our raccoons, possums, armadillos, bobcats, and coyotes. However, you may hear some coyotes start howling if a low business jet flies over. And there are always the occasional snakes and hawks. The only critters I saw were turtles and birds.

Courses

Course Controls Distance Climb

Oak Point - 45 controls; Bob Woodruff - 15

~ 5-15 km, depending on route selection

All courses start and finish near the Oak Point Pavilion, South of the Community Center at the North East circular parking lot.

Frank Ray, course setter