

# Badger Orienteering Club History

## 1970's

Hank Kulesza and Don Brick formed the Milwaukee Area Orienteering Club in about 1977. Hank learned orienteering in the Chicago area, and when he moved to Milwaukee started the club with Don. Hank produced some black and white maps at places such as Whitnall, Brown Deer and Minooka in the Milwaukee area. Don handled the administrative end of things and Hank the fieldwork. Eventually the club dissolved, but Hank kept the maps and held occasional casual events.

In the late-1970's, Hank Kulesza was running the Milwaukee Orienteering Club.

## 1984

A few years later, Maria Miller and her husband Charles Worryingham created a university orienteering club at UW-Madison. This soon became the Madison Orienteering Club. They created the Picnic Point map in full color (including university family housing) and held the club's inaugural event on May 6, 1984. 74 people participated.

On May 20, 1984 Hank, Maria and Charles, Linda Anderson, Cathy Yekenevicz, (and others including Veikko and Leila Pohjola with sons Pasi and Mikko (Finland), Peter Ehnwall and Carola Storgard-Enval (England), Ken Marsh (New Zealand)) met at Whitnall Park and agreed that Milwaukee and Madison orienteers should merge to form the Badger Orienteering Club. The first Night-O was held Aug 25, 1984 at Picnic Point. On Mar 28, 1984 there were 10 paid memberships. Milwaukee events were held on the b/w maps (cross-hatching included!) produced during the MAOC period. The club logo was designed by Veikko.

Soon Charles and Hank had produced a hand-drawn b/w map of Gov. Dodge State Park (first used 10/20/84). This cliff-studded unglaciated multi-use park with broad open meadows was used for several years until the park's land use no longer matched the map.

## Mauthe Lake

The Mauthe Lake map was produced thanks to the efforts of Peter Ehnwall and Veikko Pohjola of Finland, resulting in a five-color hand-drawn map. Working with Hank they completed the Mauthe Lake map in 1984. They were considering mapping Greenbush, but decided it was too technical for the club at that time.

Hank was eager to hold a national (A) meet in Wisconsin. That event was held at Mauthe Lake on May 26-27, 1985. 170 people participated. USOF almost didn't allow the first national event due to questions about the quality of the Mauthe Lake terrain. But Peter Gagarin (USA elite champion, and team leader) said it was suitable and the meet proceeded using courses he suggested. Another A-meet was held on this map May 16-17, 1987. Vegetation changes and logging made it necessary to revise the map for a second printing. In the days when maps were printed in the thousands to keep costs down, there were a lot of maps available! The area is still used for local events and training.

Charles and Maria moved to Michigan sometime after the fall of 1986. By then, paid membership had reached 35, but non-members were always welcome at the meets.

### **Goose Lake**

Tim Guetersloh, who had drafted some championship maps in Missouri, moved to Wisconsin around 1990. He drafted a small b/w map of a drumlin/wetland wildlife area called Goose Lake. Contour detail on the hills was exquisite, lack of trails was challenging! We won't forget that day in May when we braved a heavy wet-snow blizzard to get our cars stuck in the snow in the parking area. Bob Feuerriegel, course setter, remarked "I should have worn boots instead of running shoes." Tim eventually moved away from Wisconsin, but did share some of his expertise with club member Kevin Teschendorf, who had the mapping bug now, too.

### **Lapham Peak**

In 1992, a map was produced through the efforts of visiting Ukrainian mappers Yefim Shtempler and Volodya Pantsir. Now a State Park, the area features a lofty moraine, used in the 1800's by meteorology pioneer [Increase A. Lapham](#) to observe weather patterns.

Originally hand-drawn, the map has been re-created using digital technologies. It is sold at the park for use of the permanent courses. Ski-O and night-O events also used this versatile area. We liked to watch the night-O flashing lights from the top of the observation tower!

At the start of 1992, Jan Hansen and Karen Biesman (now Richardson) assumed joint directorship (Milwaukee/Madison). During this time, a BGR member, Corrine Gilchrist, won a Junior championship.

### **Kellings Lakes**

Jan and Erv (Oyvind) Hansen were principally responsible for getting the Kellings Lakes map produced, the last of the hand-drafted maps. The map was field-checked and drafted by visiting Czech mappers Milos Brulik, Jiri Fencel and Jan Kaplan, who were hosted by the Hansens.

A-meets were held in 1991 and 1993 at Kellings Lakes. Veteran SMOC orienteer Tom Hollowell proclaimed it the best technical map in the Midwest. Local meets have been held there ever since, but logging activities have reduced the runnability of some of the most detailed terrain.

### **OCAD Mapping**

In December of 1994, Kevin Teschendorf stepped up to lead the club. He invested club funds in OCAD, a software for drafting orienteering maps. At the time, all of the club's 17 maps were hand-drafted.

In June/July of 2002, Petr Junek, a student from the Czech Republic, mapped Blue Mound State Park. With its proximity to the Wisconsin River and web of mountain bike trails, this has been a popular map for the orienteering component of adventure races.

In August/September of 2002, Vlastik Sebesta and Evzen Cigos of the Czech Republic fieldchecked Devil's Lake State Park, east bluff. Evzen is famous in the Czech Republic for having been the first fieldchecker to put lots of details on the maps.

In the fall of 2003, Yefim Stempler returned to Wisconsin to fieldcheck Bong Recreation Area near Kenosha, WI. He also updated the map of Elver Park.

The club held a national event April 24-25, 2004 at Devil's Lake, East Bluff. This event would not have been possible without the help of Michael Eglin. He provided technical assistance with the maps, helped design courses and spent hours of time running around in the woods the weekend of the event. In September of 2004, Swiss Peter Eglin (father of Michael) and his wife fieldchecked part of the south bluff of Devil's Lake State Park.

In 2006, Kevin started work on a map in the Black River State Forest. The first installment is 4.3 square K. If we decide to map the whole area we have a basemap for, we will end up with about 16 square K.

### **Greenbush (Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest)**

In the fall of 2005, Kevin T. started work on a new series of maps in the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest near Greenbush, WI. Upon completion, there would be a number of contiguous maps covering over 10 square kilometers. Work continued in the second half of 2006. Completion of the whole area was planned for spring of 2008.

In March of 2008, Ivar Helgesen of Norway came to Wisconsin to work on the area around Greenbush. The maps he completed are Red Oaks and Greenbush South. Ivar is known across the world for his work making orienteering basemaps.

### **U.S. Champs**

On October 23-25, 2009 the club produced a nationally-sanctioned event, the U.S. Orienteering Championships in Greenbush, WI. This event attracted 225 people from across the country. It was the first national championship event hosted by the Badger Club.

Unknown to most of the country, the Greenbush maps received high accolades from the orienteering community. Many orienteers had never before experienced the kind of "negative terrain" offered by the glacial geology in this area.

This championship event would not have been possible without assistance from neighboring clubs, CAOC and MNOC, who generously donated their time and resources to the relatively small and unequipped Badger club. There were more than 50 volunteers who stepped up for this event! An amazing awards banquet was held at Laack's Ballroom, in Johnsonville, WI.

### **Club Reorganization**

After 2+ years with no events held (due in part to lack of volunteers), the Club was reorganized with new By-Laws and a new slate of officers. In January 2019, a members' meeting was held where By-Laws were adopted and Officers were elected unanimously. As a result of the restructuring, long-time member and

former President Kevin T. departed the club. Unfortunately, the many maps that Kevin had produced for the club (using club software and resources) went with him. The club was threatened with a federal copyright lawsuit if use of those maps continued. After hiring an attorney for a legal opinion, the belief is that the club actually owns rights to the maps; but the prospect of landing in Federal court is too daunting to risk using them. Lesson learned: Any future maps made for the club need to include an explicit transfer of copyrights from the mapper to the club!

**E-Punch**

In 2020, the club acquired a SportIdent e-punch system, which allows digital timing of course participants. This is a state-of-the-art system, used by orienteering clubs all over the country and world.

**Ongoing mapping efforts**

In 2020, we began mapping some of the areas previously mapped by Kevin T, including High Cliff State Park, Greenbush East & West, and Lapham West. The Club will also be focusing on updating certain maps that are extremely out-of-date.

**Club Member National Champions**

1986 (F14), 1987 (F16), 1988: Corinne Gilchrist

2002 (M40), 2004 (M45), 2008 (M50 Ultralong): Kevin Teschendorf

Various Events and Years: Charlie Shahbazian

<b>National Events Hosted by the Club</b>			
<b>Place</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Meet Director</b>
Greenbush, U.S. Champs	Oct 23-25, 2009	225	Kevin
Devil's Lake	April 24-25, 2004	150	Kevin
Kellings Lakes	May 15-16, 1993		Cathy
Mauthe/Kellings Lakes	October 19-20, 1991		Hank/Cathy
Mauthe Lake	May 16-17, 1987	98	Hank/Cathy/Hansen's
Mauthe Lake	May 26-27, 1985	170	Hank/Charles W.

Club Maps			
Year	Map	Size	Mapper
2021 (in progress)	Greenbush East/West		
2021 (in progress)	High Cliff		
2020	Lapham Peak	5.6K	Andrea Schneider
2008	Red Oaks	2.2K	Ivar Helgesen, Norway
2008	Greenbush South	3.5K	Ivar Helgesen, Norway
2004	Devil's Lake S.	5K	Peter Eglin, Switzerland
2003	Bong State Rec Area	6K	Yefim Stempler, Ukraine
2003	Elver Park	1K	Yefim Stempler, Ukraine
2002	Devil's Lake E.	10.5K	Vlastik Sebesta, Evzen Cigos, Petr Junek, Czech Republic
2002	Blue Mound	5.2K	Petr Junek, Czech Republic
1991	Kellings Lakes	5K	Milos Broulik, Jiri Fencel, Jan Kaplan, Czech Republic
1991	Governor Nelson	1.2K	Milos Broulik, Jan Kaplan, Czech Republic
1991	Goose Lake	5K	Tim Guetersloh, USA
1987	Glacial Blue Hills	.5K	Jerome Zeigler, USA
1986	Indian Lake	1.7K	Paul LoBue, USA
1984	Mauthe Lake	6.9K	Hank Kulesza, Peter Ehnwall, Veikko Pohjola, USA, Finland
1984	Governor Dodge	5.8K	Charles Worringham, Maria Miller, England, USA