



## Event Report Orienteering

When: March 6, 2004

Where: Foster City

### Scouts

Zach L, Ryan S, Victor H, Dane H, Jackson F, Ryan F, Sam W, Kevin N, Patrick H

### Adults

Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Lee

### Location

Bowditch and the levee area

### Trip Summary

This was our annual event that covers the orienteering requirement for First Class. The two troop meetings before this event covered the necessary map and compass skills necessary to complete the course. This course made them actually apply what they had learned.

The scouts covered a one-mile course with 11 waypoints using just a compass, a map, and a course card with bearings and distances between the waypoints. Just to throw the scouts off, there were false markers near the real ones. Each marker had a code that needed to be written on their course card. They also had to use their geometry skills to estimate the height of a tree and the distance across a "river" (a.k.a. Beach Park Blvd.)

The teams of two scouts each started off at 9:45. What sounded easy turned out to be much more difficult than they expected. Walking a bearing accurately required picking a mark in the distance and walking towards it, not staring intently at the compass in your hand. By the end of the course their skills improved dramatically.

Highlights included missed marks, getting lost in the reeds, two lost compasses (not quite sure how), and forgetting to convert paces into yards. Each team was scored on their accuracy of their navigation (70%) and the accuracy in estimating height and distance (30%). Time to complete the course was only to be used as a tiebreaker (better to be slow and accurate than fast and wrong!). The final team standings were:

<b>First Place:</b>	Sam W and Dane H
<b>Second Place:</b>	Zachary L and Ryan F
<b>Third Place:</b>	Jackson F and Ryan S
<b>Fourth Place:</b>	Kevin N and Victor H

All of the teams did well and learned how to apply what they learned at the troop meetings. Next year these guys will help with our new scouts.



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Zach and Ryan on the course



Dane and Sam work as a team



First Place -- Dane and Sam



Second Place -- Ryan and Zack



Third Place -- Jackson and Ryan



Fourth Place -- Victor and Kevin