

Report of the Jury appointed at the BAOC Calero event on April 2, 2023 to consider a complaint that was filed.

A complaint was filed at the BAOC event held at Calero County Park on April 2, 2023, claiming that control #35 was at the wrong location. (That control was number 6 on the *Red* course. It was not used on any other course.)

The complaint was filed in writing at 1:32 P.M., in advance of the 2:00 P.M. announced Close of Finish required by rule A.31.2. The event director deemed this a **valid protest**.

In response, per the *Rules for Orienteering USA Sanctioned Events – March 2023* (section “0.30” in the [online copy](#), “A.31” in the [PDF copy](#)), the Event Director, **Tapio Karras**, appointed a Jury after the courses had closed. The Jury members were **Chuck Spalding** and **Steve Haas** (both of whom ran the *Brown-X* course, which did not include the subject control) and **James Roney** (who ran the *Red* course). The Jury completed their investigation before the end of the day of the event, and completed this report the next day.

The Jury visited control #35 (which had not been retrieved by the Pick-up Crew) and the surrounding area, and made the following observations:

- The control location was east of the “centerline” of a spur that descends from the south toward the north, whereas the map showed the control location to be on the west side of the “centerline” of that spur.
- The Jury went to a stream junction about 55m SW of the control location shown on the map (and used multiple features to identify the stream junction on the map), and pace counted from there in the NE direction, reaching a small cliff adjacent to two low boulders.
- The height of that cliff was estimated to be consistent with the 0.8m height shown in the control description.
- The area surrounding that cliff seems to match the area in the circle on the map:
 - There is a small clearing immediately to the S.
 - There is an area of overgrown vegetation to the NE. (The size and shape seem to be somewhat incorrectly shown on the map, but the Course Setter had stated that he modified that feature to match his interpretation of the area.)
 - The direction of the slope of the hillside is consistent with the map.
 - There is a nearby, small, shallow reentrant SW of the identified cliff.
- Thus, it was concluded that those features are the mapped cliff and boulders shown on the map as the control location.
- The Jury then revisited the area around the actual control location, and made these observations that seem to place the actual control about 50m ENE from the cliff identified above (i.e., outside the control circle shown on the map):
 - Three lone trees shown on the map in a triangular arrangement, centered about 50 m E of the cliff, were identified.
 - The control was located roughly N to NNW from the center of the triangle formed by those trees, at a distance that is consistent with the following observations.
 - There is a nearby area of dense vegetation N of those trees, which matches a dark green oval on the map.

- There is a clearing around those trees, and to their W, and which extends N and S along the E side of the spur. That clearing narrows between two “fingers” of (white) forest, and then opens up to a clearing that extends to the E. That extended clearing matches the one that is shown on the E side of the spur.
- The control was considered to be located at the W end of the E “finger” of forest mentioned above. (However, it seems that the E “finger” of forest should not be mapped as white, but rather a lone tree should be shown at the W end of the current “finger” [i.e., adjacent to the actual control location].)
- At the location described above, there are un-mapped rock features that consist of a small cliff (i.e., smaller than the one identified above) and two small, very-low boulders (i.e., smaller and lower than those adjacent to the cliff identified above.)

The conclusion of the Jury was that control #35 was located the wrong feature, outside the control circle shown on the map. It should have been placed at the larger cliff located about 50m WSW from the actual control location.

In accordance with OUSA Rule A.31.13 (PDF; 0.30.13 online):

“When in response to a complaint or protest the organizer or Jury determines that any of the following conditions have existed for a substantial group of competitors in a class, then the class or course shall be voided.

“a. ...

“b. A control flag, the start, or the finish is not within the marked circle or triangle.

“c. A control flag is on the wrong feature.

“d. ...”

The Jury has concluded based upon thorough investigation that both conditions “b” and “c” existed for all competitors on the *Red* course.

It is therefore the decision of the Jury that the Red course be voided for the BAOC event at Calero County Park on April 2, 2023.

Respectfully submitted on April 3, 2023 by the Jury comprised of:

<s> Chuck Spalding

<s> James Roney

<s> Steve Haas

ATTACHMENT:

The graphic below shows the area of interest. The left-hand half shows a segment of the event map (enlarged). The right-hand half shows a satellite image of the same area with the following annotations.

- The red lines show James Roney's GPS Track of his route to and from the control during the competition.
- The "6" circle indicates the location of the control as manually marked by James during the competition.
- The dashed white line approximates the centerline of the spur referenced in the first bullet point above.
- The three green circles added in the image approximate the three "lone trees" noted in the 6th (primary) bullet point in the report above.
- The yellow "X" indicates the approximate proper control location.

