

# **Orienteering**

## **At Bald Hill / Wood Hill**

Hosted by  
Andover Conservation Commission

Many people want to spend more time outdoors walking, running, hiking, and playing sports. They may enjoy walking or running the same route or trails and watching the changing seasons. They often enjoy the challenge of a race or competition in their outdoor activity. The Scandinavians combined the challenge of a game with their love of the outdoors and created the modern sport of orienteering.

Orienteering is a sport for a lifetime, for people of all ages and abilities. Participants may travel alone or in groups, running or strolling, to win the contest or merely to savor nature's beauty. Orienteering challenges you to read a map, make decisions, and plan a route all while moving across fields, over rocks or along scenic trails.

The objective is to locate fairly easy to find markers, called "controls", with the aid of a very detailed map and, if you like, a compass. It's kind of like a treasure hunt. The challenge comes from participants not knowing the location of the control markers beforehand. The skill lies in determining your best routes and navigating between the control markers identified on your course. The competition comes from finding all the course markers in sequence in the least possible time!

The Bald Hill / Wood Hill permanent orienteering courses offer three variations: one course for beginners (white course) where all the controls are on the trails; a more advanced course (yellow course) where you can see the controls or a map feature near the controls from a trail; and an off-trail course that combines the skills learned in the white and yellow courses (orange course). The controls are all attached to wooden posts that stand about two feet high with a metal orienteering symbol of a white and orange triangle that form a square.

## **Instructions**

1. Familiarize yourself with your map before you begin. Hold the map in front of you and rotate it until it lines up with the terrain around you. Line up the trail you are walking on with the parking lot or roads that you can see around you. If you have a compass, you can set the map to magnetic north by aligning the north arrow on the map with the red needle of the compass. You have now "oriented" the map – the same as Marco Polo did a long time ago. He used maps to get to the Orient, which is the origin of the term.

2. Take a few minutes to figure out some of the symbols that are used on the map. The legend can be helpful if you can't figure out what a symbol represents. Using these symbols will enhance your ability to navigate to the controls.
3. Set out on your chosen course to find the controls in sequence. The controls are usually near an easily identified land feature such as an intersection of two trails or along a stone wall. As you locate each control, make sure that the number of the control matches the marker that you are looking for. When you are sure that you have arrived at the correct location and the control number matches the map, record the two letter code to identify the particular control. This is the evidence that you went to the right location. You've scored!
4. Move on to the next control and enjoy the satisfaction of a completed course when you record the last control.

### Safety

Each course is designed to be completed in 60-90 minutes at a walking pace. Keep your time and weather in mind before starting on a course. Do not hesitate to abandon a course if darkness closes in – the course will be there in the morning. Use judgment with the courses. Areas may be off-trail and contain terrain not normally encountered. You are responsible for your own safety and the safety of your group.

### Courtesy

Areas of the maps have been marked off limits due to safety concerns and consideration for abutting homeowners. Please respect these areas and our neighbors. If you encounter any Conservation Commission Wardens during your visit and enjoyed the land or the orienteering course, please let them know how much you appreciate all their work for our open lands.

### Credits

Basemap 2013: Dan O'Leary, Troop 100, Andover, Eagle Project

Cartography 2013: Dan O'Leary

Fieldwork 2013: Dan O'Leary, Barb Bryant, David Yee, Bud O'Leary

Construction 2013: Troop 100 Andover, MA – thanks everyone!

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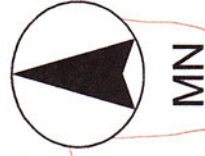
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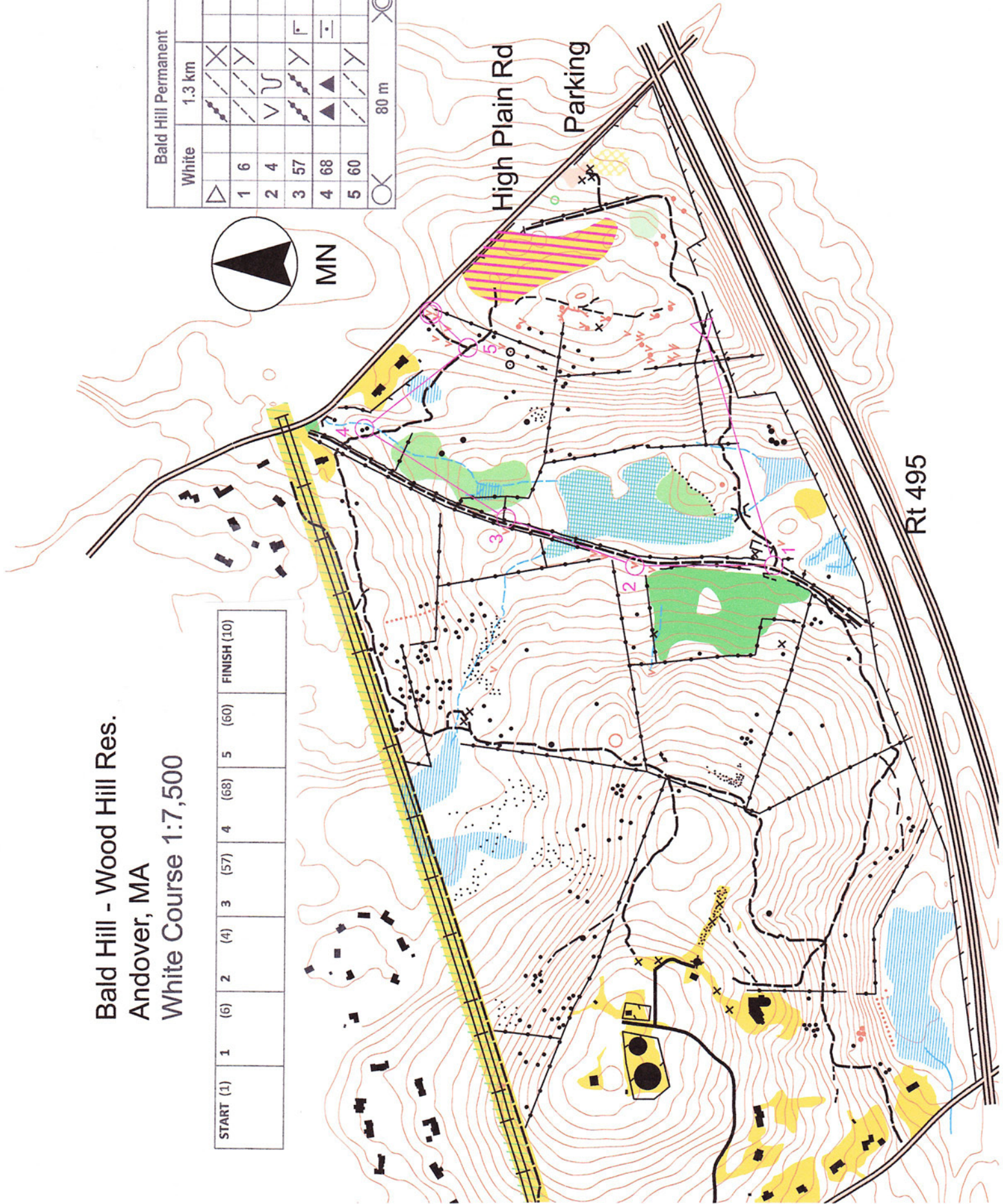


# Bald Hill - Wood Hill Res. Andover, MA White Course 1:7,500

START (1)	1	(6)	2	(4)	3	(57)	4	(68)	5	(60)	FINISH (10)



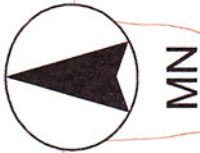
Bald Hill Permanent	
White	1.3 km
△	↗
1 6	↘
2 4	∪
3 57	↖
4 68	▲
5 60	↙
○	80 m



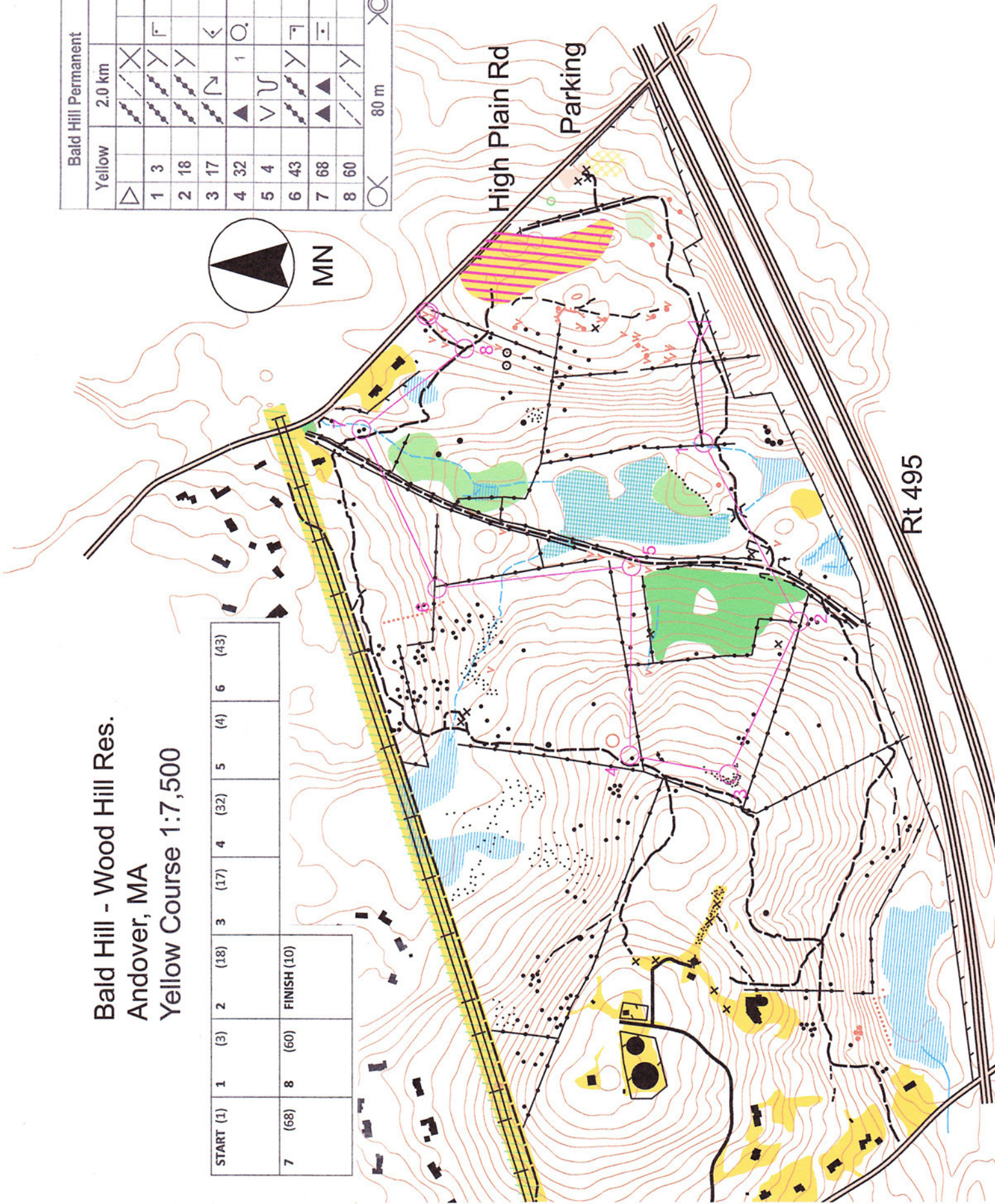


# Bald Hill - Wood Hill Res. Andover, MA Yellow Course 1:7,500

START (1)	1	(3)	2	(18)	3	(17)	4	(32)	5	(4)	6	(43)
7	(68)	8	(60)	FINISH (10)								



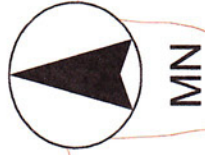
Bald Hill Permanent		
Yellow	2.0 km	
△	↗	↘
1	↗	↘
2	↗	↘
3	↗	↘
4	↗	↘
5	↗	↘
6	↗	↘
7	↗	↘
8	↗	↘
80 m		



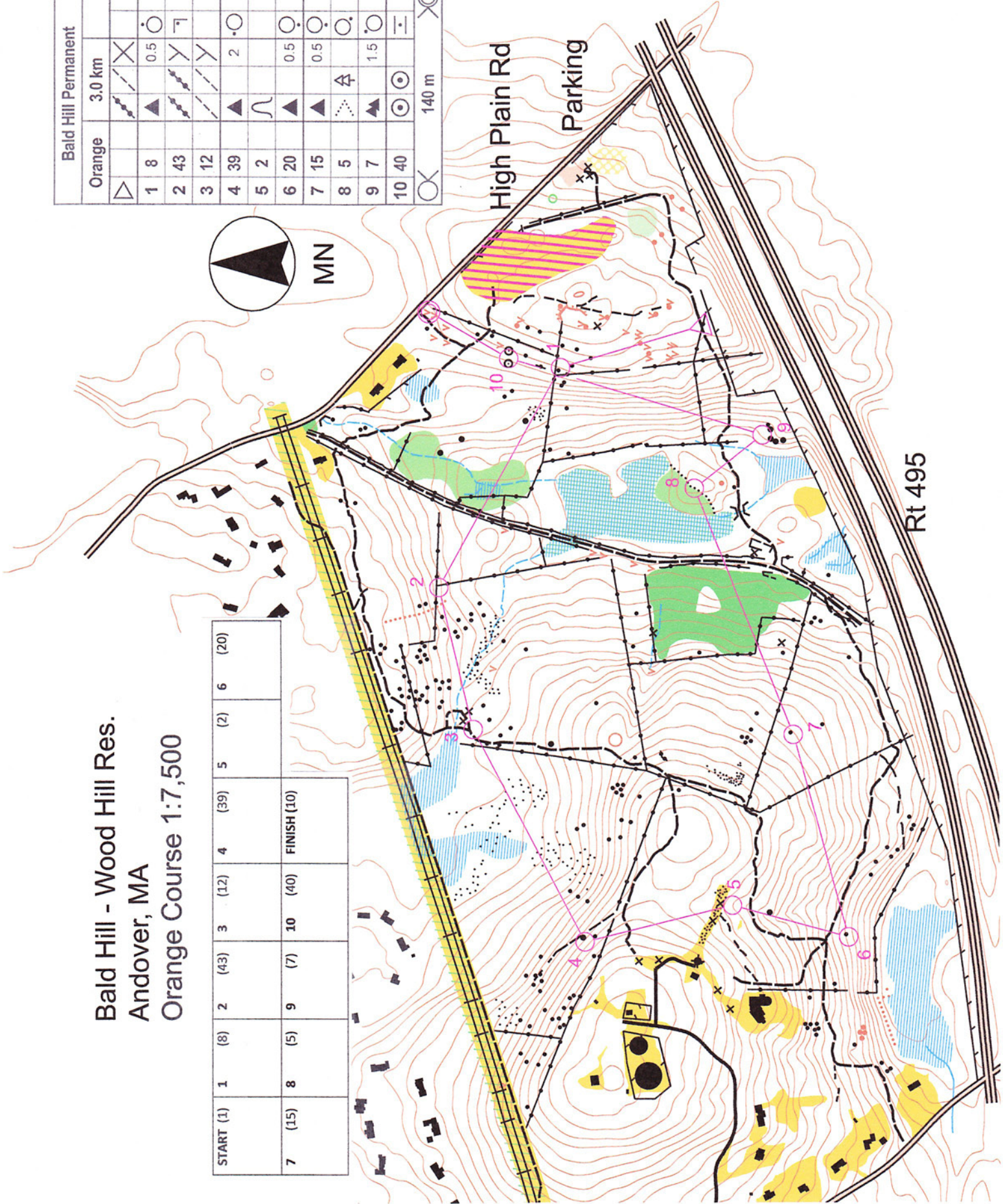


# Bald Hill - Wood Hill Res. Andover, MA Orange Course 1:7,500

START (1)	1	(8)	2	(43)	3	(12)	4	(39)	5	(2)	6	(20)
7	(15)	8	(5)	9	(7)	10	(40)	FINISH (10)				



Bald Hill Permanent		
Orange	3.0 km	
1	8	0.5
2	43	1
3	12	2
4	39	0.5
5	2	0.5
6	20	1.5
7	15	0.5
8	5	0.5
9	7	0.5
10	40	0.5





# IOF Orienteering Map Symbols

## Land forms

	Contour
	Index contour
	Form line
	Slope line
	Contour value
	Earth bank
	Earth wall
	Small earth wall
	Erosion gully
	Small erosion gully
	Knoll
	Small knoll
	Elongated knoll
	Depression
	Small depression
	Pit
	Broken ground
	Special land form feature

## Water and marsh

	Lake
	Pond
	Waterhole
	Uncrossable river
	Crossable watercourse
	Crossable small watercourse
	Minor water channel
	Narrow marsh
	Uncrossable marsh
	Marsh
	Indistinct marsh
	Well
	Spring
	Special water feature

## Rock and boulders

	Impassable cliff
	Rock pillars/cliffs
	Passable rock face
	Rocky pit
	Cave
	Boulder
	Large boulder
	Boulder field
	Boulder cluster
	Stony ground
	Open sandy ground
	Bare rock

## Man-made features

	Motorway
	Major road
	Minor road
	Road
	Vehicle track
	Footpath
	Small path
	Less distinct small path
	Narrow ride
	Visible path junction
	Indistinct junction
	Footbridge
	Crossing point with bridge
	Crossing point without bridge
	Railway
	Power line
	Major power line
	Tunnel
	Stone wall
	Ruined stone wall
	High stone wall
	Fence
	Ruined fence
	High fence
	Crossing point
	Building
	Settlement
	Permanently out of bounds
	Paved area
	Ruin
	Firing range
	Grave
	Crossable pipeline
	Uncrossable pipeline
	High tower
	Small tower
	Cairn
	Fodder rack
	Special man-made feature

## Technical symbols

	Magnetic north line
	Registration marks
	Spot height

## Vegetation

	Open land
	Open land with scattered trees
	Rough open land
	Rough open land with scattered trees
	Forest: easy running
	Forest: slow running
	Undergrowth: slow running
	Forest: difficult to run
	Undergrowth: difficult to run
	Vegetation: very difficult to run, impassable
	Forest runnable in one direction
	Orchard
	Vineyard
	Distinct cultivation boundary
	Cultivated land
	Distinct vegetation boundary
	Indistinct vegetation boundary
	Special vegetation feature

## Overprinting symbols

	Start
	Control point
	Control number
	Line
	Marked route
	Finish
	Uncrossable boundary
	Crossing point
	Out-of-bounds area
	Dangerous area
	Forbidden route
	First aid point
	Refreshment point



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Copies of these map symbols and of the IOF pictorial control descriptions can be downloaded from [www.maprunner.co.uk](http://www.maprunner.co.uk)  
The full ISOM 2000 specification is available from [www.orienteing.org](http://www.orienteing.org)

## Master Control Key

These are the alphabetic codes that are affixed on the numbered controls used on all permanent orienteering courses at Bald Hill / Wood Hill Reservation.

Control #	Code	
1	OO	Start
5	AC	
7	BG	
3	IH	
6	VR	
18	QT	
15	WD	
2	FL	
17	HN	
20	MP	
39	OS	
32	ZU	
12	EX	
43	JY	
57	BQ	
68	PK	
60	TG	
8	ML	
40	OV	
4	JF	
10	AA	Finish