

Barebones 2003 Post-Event Satisfaction Survey

Questions & Responses

Questions

Please response to the following survey, so that the Barebones organizers can

- i) improve the event
- ii) ensure all had fun
- iii) eliminate fluff activities
- iv) pass all the hard work onto the entrants.

In all seriousness I do want your opinion. (even if Adrian doesn't, what he wants is your opinion to be the same as his), please just email the results back and I will tabulate and changes will be made if identified so.

Comments or additional answers are welcome on all questions except for #8.

1. The organizers seemed to be
 - a. enjoying themselves
 - b. overly worried about a successful event
 - c. didn't give a dam
 - d. in it for the free snacks
 - e. too cheap to pay, so helping to get free entry.

2. Which event was the most enjoyable for you?
 - A. classic
 - B. night o
 - C. setup
 - D. chase
 - E. enduro

3. Which event was the least enjoyable for you?
 - A. classic
 - B. night o
 - C. setup
 - D. chase
 - E. enduro

4. The post race snacks where?
 - A. too many
 - b. too few
 - C. unhealthy
 - D. a real waste
 - E. best part of the event

5. Overall the courses were
 - A. too difficult
 - B. too easy
 - C. enough variety for all
 - D. in need of more variety
 - E. _____

6. The people at the starts were
- extremely friendly and welcoming
 - overly bossy
 - very helpful
 - wishing they were somewhere else/just doing a job
 - totally disorganized
7. Course quality (control placement) was
- A-meet quality
 - B-meet quality
 - best you ever ran
 - looks like the course was set by a dog or cat on its rounds
8. The people at the finish were
- Extremely friendly and welcoming
 - Extremely friendly and helpful
 - Extremely friendly and a site for sore feet
 - Extremely friendly and performing beyond the call of duty
 - Extremely friendly and total understanding of my grumpyness after returning.
9. The potluck was
- wonderful
 - best meal of my year
 - in need of professional entertainment
 - saved me the trouble of cooking
 - _____
10. E-punching at barebones is
- a step backwards for the sport
 - advanced the fun for the event to a new level
 - an expensive geek toy
 - the only reason to go to barebones
 - what is e-punching?
11. As we all know one of the most unpleasant tasks of orienteering is control pickup. Would you be in favor of paying a surcharge on each event to be used to place a dollar value on each control. (i.e. whoever brings the control back after the course closing to the organizers gets the cash, difficultly of pickup establishes the dollar value)
- good idea
 - brilliant idea, I can make money at events
 - which organizer is on a bad drug trip to come up with this idea
 - this is a real incentive for slow runners
 - money isn't everything, reductions in runner time might be better.
12. Group camping is
- the same as regular camping
 - half the fun of barebones
 - too crowded for peaceful sleeping, I heard Ron snoring or was it Barbie.
 - worth every penny to see what zombies people really are in the morning.
 - the life center of the BAREBONES CULTURE. To miss it is to

miss what barebones is all about.

13. Should all the events be joined up into a multi day event with the last event being the chase?

- a. what?
- b. I was just thinking that myself
- c. This would mean real bragging rights for the champion
- d. was the organizer still on that bad drug trip
- e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events.

14. Should there be a mandatory t-shirt costing \$10-\$15 per entrant.

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. can I pay for it by picking up controls?
- d. yes, and I have the perfect design and will do all the work on getting them made and distributed.

15. My barebones soap

- a. saved my marriage because my spouse loved the fact I took time out of my fun weekend away to buy them a thoughtful gift
- b. is ten times better than the last car fresher I had
- c. a new lease on life after eliminating my dry mature skin
- d. ruined my marriage because my spouse swears I couldn't smell so good without trying to impress a lover.
- e. is in the mail back to the organizers.

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMNETS HERE PLEASE

rpo

Responses

1. The organizers seemed to be

B. It was very successful, no need to worry Charlotte.

a. enjoying themselves

a. enjoying themselves

a. enjoying themselves

b. overly worried about a successful event Charlotte maybe?

a. enjoying themselves

a. enjoying themselves

Partly a. and b. Trouble is we orienteers can be such a picky bunch that organizers naturally want things to be perfect (even for a laid-back fun event) so there was naturally some b. But hopefully you guys did have some fun!

a. enjoying themselves

a enjoying themselves (maybe not enough)

yesa. enjoying themselves

a. enjoying themselves

A) enjoying themselves with a little of the worry thrown in

a. enjoying themselves

a. enjoying themselves

mostly a with a little bit of b

a. **enjoying themselves - Did not see that many except the outstanding Richard !**

2. Which event was the most enjoyable for you?

B.C.D. I missed enduro.

Redo the Barrier Lake map as it is much more enjoyable terrain than Sibbald Lookout.

A. classic...primarily because it went well for me and I was fresh

A. classic & E. enduro (tie)

A. **classic, simply loved watching people suffer** & D. **chase**

D. chase

One of the major reasons we came was to run on great Alberta maps. Unfortunately, we didn't find the classic or the setup to be what we'd come to expect as great maps. Maybe this is part of the Barebones culture that we haven't internalized since it was our first Barebones. We don't at all mind the barebones aspect of the event, i.e. not a lot of bells and whistles, but we do like to run on good maps. That aspect of the event was disappointing for us. I would rather have run twice on good maps than run on different maps.

A. classic & c. setup & D. chase & E. enduro

A. Simply because that was the race I was happiest about my performance.

E. enduro

C and d

yes (could have been longer thought B. night o

C, but that is because it was technical and I smoked it. If I have to be more objective, then D was probably the best course setting and had the most anticipation and best finish setting.

E. enduro

weird but it was the night O---I haven't analysed that yet...

D. chase

D But I would prefer it in less civilized area, with less roads and pathways

B. night o was super cool but they were all fun

C. **setup - until I started to run it, that is.....**

3. Which event was the least enjoyable for you?

The classic because of the deadfall. See # 2.

E. enduro...primarily because it didn't go so well and I was anything but fresh

C, because of my total personal failure on it

B. night o

C. setup

B. night o

C. then D. again because of performance (or rather lack hereof).

B. night o

yes A. classic &

yes map was difficultC. Setup

B - my fault for missing the mass start and the announcement that the finish punch was not where the map showed it to be but was at the camper without a flag on it, and that there was no ribboning from the last control as the control description indicated, etc...

C. setup

All were enjoyable - toughest orienteering was the Set up but that was a good course (I told Charlotte) - I missed the classic...It was sort of too long between the Set up and Chase (okay!okay! if I had found number one earlier I could have started earlier - I know)...but how about reverse starts??? Loved the Endro but still tired - no Endro allowed in casino week again -

A. classic - I had way too much difficulty with it

C I still loved it! , but it was hard on this scale of map with uniform forest.

E. enduro - I have to say the enduro because I'm not big on long events but I was pleasantly surprised that I survived and finished with a smile on my face.

B. night o - because I was too late with setting up tent, fixing some food etc. Too short time as I started late in the Classic

4. The post race snacks where?

None of the above...Excellent

C. unhealthy - I'd rather not eat chips and pastries...but if they're there, I'm going to eat them.

E. best part of the event

E. **best part of the event**

F. OK

I would have liked more water at the finish of the Set-up (was there any water?) The biscuits were tasty but I had a hard time getting them down without water.

A. too many ie you don't need to have so many

F. Never knew they were there.

Sensible and much appreciated.

good (it was good for me to see gluten free stuff like fruits, but that's not an issue for most people

yummyE. best part of the event

E (by process of elimination, though not exactly true) -

excellent selection of stuff that hit the spot.

F Important. Having snacks at the finish means that people

Hang around and socialize; experienced people can chat with

newcomers. I think that it is this interaction that makes people decide to join our group.

F. good, except they needed more liquid to wash them down!

A) too many but at least my kids were well fed - thanks Jean!
Great - especially the fruit. Needed water, though

do not care, but soap was great!

just right (unless you had loads left over)

b. **too few - probably missed most of it. Some should be saved and brought out later so all can enjoy it !**

5. Overall the courses were

C. I was physically exhausted after the 4 races but that's because I didn't pace myself and ended up getting too sick for the enduro.

C. enough variety for all

c. Classic & chase C3s were challenging but enjoyable for me on, but C3 was over my head for the Night-0 and setup; Enduro was also about right for me, so I guess overall the courses were about right in difficulty.

C. enough variety for all, it even punished people equally: pace counters on the Classic, map readers on the Set-up...

C. enough variety for all

C. enough variety for all

C. enough variety for all

C. enough variety for all

C. enough variety for all

yup A. too difficult

A (but only slightly) - 1st 4 events were fine for many vets, but probably too tough for sophomores and rookies judging from their results. It's hard to please everyone with only 2 advanced level courses though. Enduro air-photo 0 wasn't trivial either, but some people who bombed most of the other events seemed to do quite well there.

C. enough variety for all

C) enough variety for all. I think a few people thought the orienteering was too tough but I found those comments were coming from orienteers with little forest experience - it will be interesting to see what your survey says. _____ loved the Classic Course One (Moose Creek) - has mentioned it a few times... "It was a real orienteering course"

C. enough variety for all - bordering on too difficult...but I'll chalk that one up to my lack of ability

E. setup wrong scale of map, chase too civilized area BUT , hey , it was 9 out of 10 overall!

C. enough variety for all

i know people complained about the 1st control of the set-up being difficult but i think if we hadn't all drifted right to begin with, we would have had an easier time... and many people had trouble at 2 as well yet I found the map to be excellent there... no-one seem to have much trouble in the other vague areas so i don't really think there was any obvious solution... I feel that I should have spent a lot less time on #1 than I did

and the reason I was slow to relocate was simply the number of people wandering around...but I think focussing in that kind of situation is important practise.

E. **No problem with the course, but rather the maps (scale, incomplete map etc)**

6. The people at the starts were
- A. extremely friendly and welcoming
 - A. extremely friendly and welcoming**
 - A. extremely friendly and welcoming
 - A. extremely friendly and welcoming**
 - C. very helpful

There was real confusion at the start of the Chase so both Charlotte and Marilyn were a bit unhappy. They were not prepared for hordes of runners to come along and say that they wanted to run any old time. It was hard for them to ensure fair starts (i.e. enough time between runners on the same course).

- A. extremely friendly and welcoming
- A. and C. They all did a great job.
- C. very helpful

yayA. extremely friendly and welcoming

A&C - lots of flexibility for latecomers and finding shadows for my kids. Thanks!

C. very helpful

A friendly and welcoming - a bit of confusion at times but nothing serious - all resolved with the walkie talkie calls....

A. extremely friendly and welcoming

- A. extremely friendly and welcoming
- A. extremely friendly and welcoming
- And C. very helpful

C. **very helpful**

7. Course quality (control placement) was
- None of the above...Barebones quality and that says a lot. It was really great.

A. A-meet quality

B. **B-meet quality, note that what actually made it B and not A is not the course setting but the poor quality of the maps**

BOTH A. A-meet quality & B. B-meet quality

Both A and B, depending on the event. For the classic event, given the thickness of the terrain and the sense that there was a lot of swampy ground out there, I would have opted to stay away from swamp controls. Clearly, if the courses weren't so long (because of the incorrect map scale), I might have felt differently, but even so, the rough terrain should have suggested shorter courses. But then, this may be the Barebones aspect - you can't keep it easy to organize and then have more sophisticated checks and balances (such as people actually running the course beforehand).

Between A-meet quality and B-meet quality

A. for the classic and perhaps set-up; B. for the chase.

A. A-meet quality

a (a bit confusing on Enduro about which areas might be private...I stayed out of everywhere obvious, but wasn't sure everywhere (but I had to go somewhere)...also a bit dicey with rocks coming down) Chase was particularly good design.

excellent...they should all be like thatA. A-meet quality

B - when you go to a B-meet you never know what you are going to get and don't have high expectations. The 5 events had a wide variety of overall course quality, and all had some really good legs. I'd prefer to see BB shoot for a higher overall standard than this though and believe it is achievable with negligible extra effort required, except maybe initially when the BB course quality manual and checklist is put together.

E. i am not experienced enough to know... but i am pretty sure that the fact that i didn't find several controls was NOT because they were incorrectly placed, but because i still have a lot to learn...

A meet quality? hmmm - I wasn't in the classic so can't complain about the map scale...I was thrown off by the finish circle on the night O but I still made the top 10!!! - In the chase I saw the "extra ribbon" in the neighbouring depression but I was moving so slow I knew it was the wrong depression (stop laughing -some times I do know where I am) so it didn't fool me but I saw Carl Lundgren run into that depression...So maybe B meet quality

not bad - a few controls were low, and of course the first control on the chase was not in a good place (too difficult for a first control - did not inspire confidence)

A. A-meet quality

A. A-meet quality

B. B-meet quality - not controlled enough ? Probbaly too short time in between the events ?

8. The people at the finish were

None of the above...Unlimited love like a dog or cat on its rounds.

E. Extremely friendly and total understanding of my grumpyness after returning

A, B, C, D, E (thanks for waiting for me to get back every time!!!)

D. Extremely friendly and performing beyond the call of duty, including wake-up calls in the morning. Unbelievable.

All of the above!

A, B, D, E

A. through E.

A. Extremely friendly and welcoming

E. Extremely friendly and total understanding of my grumpyness after returning

of course richard whatever you sayA. Extremely friendly and welcoming

E - a few things make me temporarily grumpy. I like to look at results, and like them to look pretty and reflect accurate info! The EndurO should have had the zero time of when we actually left cuz we busted our butts to finish under 4 hours. It's minor I know, but a minor irritant to some none-the-less. In the past I was bummed when arbitrary fake split times were inserted for whatever reason, but then the fastest split appeared to go to this runner.

E. Extremely friendly and total understanding of my grumpyness after returning.

A friendly and welcoming - a bit of confusion at times but nothing serious - all resolved with the walkie talkie calls....

- A. Extremely friendly and welcoming
I'll go for all of the above.
- B. **Extremely friendly and helpful - as ALWAYS !**

9. The potluck was

Real sorry I missed it.

D. saved me the trouble of cooking

A. wonderful

A. wonderful & C. in need of professional entertainment What? What about MY performance? & D. saved me the trouble of cooking & e. made me fart all night, so kept me warm

A. fine & C. in need of professional entertainment - hey, it was barebones entertainment! & D. saved me the trouble of cooking & e. indoors was a good idea _____

A. wonderful

9d, good chance to socialize (even if I was a bit tired)

e. it was duller than I had thought it would have been considering it being barebones and all maybe because Adrian didn't sing and Richard too..its a bit hard to bring food when your camping...maybe a night at the bar would have been better

E - I'm guessing that some people might have skipped it because they didn't have time to get a desert or salad. The whole weekend was on such a tight schedule, I suppose we should have just provided everything and charged \$10 for the chili banquet. Then at least we wouldn't be guessing about attendance.

F Important. Having snacks at the finish means that people hang around and socialize; experienced people can chat with newcomers. I think that it is this interaction that makes people decide to join our group.

A. wonderful

WONDERFUL - GREAT! Terrific food, fun entertainment, great conversations, lots of helpful volunteers!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A. wonderful - much better than having camp staff do it

A. wonderful and warm

e. **___better food than at Circle Square Ranch (not hard to beat though!) Good thing we had it indoors.....**

10. E-punching at barebones is

B. for ease of starting, I love the relaxed start when you are ready.

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level & d. the only reason to go to barebones, well, seeing Richard operate it is actually the real reason

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level ****although since this was my first Barebones, I'm not really sure***

E-punching at barebones is something that makes the event more than a true barebones level, in terms of minimum organization ??

b. At least I can feel good about some legs by looking at the splits.

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

oh no now everyone will know how bad I did!c. an expensive geek toy

B - at least in 2000, Cypress hills it was.

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

B - I believe it makes life easier - but if there was no Richard???

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level

b. advanced the fun for the event to a new level. WE are now so used to getting our splits and times so quickly, that going back to regular punches would be a punch in the face !

11. As we all know one of the most unpleasant tasks of orienteering is control pickup. Would you be in favor of paying a surcharge on each event to be used to place a dollar value on each control. (i.e. whoever brings the control back after the course closing to the organizers gets the cash, difficultly of pickup establishes the dollar value)

B. I got 4 on the Friday classic, I'll send an invoice...

f. When signing up for barebones, the form should have a place where you choose which event(s) you wish to help with control pick-up. Mandatory – minimum one event. This way you have a large pre-selected group of control gatherers for each event. I think this works with the "Barebones" philosophy which should make life a little easier for the organizers.

c. which organizer is on a bad drug trip to come up with this idea, it would deter me from going to Barebones since unless I improve dramatically I couldn't help much because 1) I couldn't find half the controls; and 2) when I did finish a course it was usually close to or after the course closing and I had no energy left. I know it's a chore because I do it sometimes on Wednesday nights, but I think the surcharge would only be fair if there was some other way a hopeless orienteer could help out that required no skill (maybe helping with the potluck or some other off-course chores)

B. brilliant idea, I can make money at events

X f. none of the above *** before offering money, maybe you should ask for volunteers on the entry form for **each specific event** My experience has been that the "youngsters" like picking up controls, especially if they aren't involved in organizing the event.

What about spending less on refreshments and use that as incentive to collect the furthest controls? Actually, paying for control collection would set a bad precedent. Could invent a game of some sort to encourage younger, fitter people to go out again and get more bang for their entry buck. Or turn control pickup into a training session? Some kids on Courses 1 & 2 could have learned a lot from doing their course again, either more slowly or with a "coach".

e. I'd go for that! Let's see, how about this for a formula:
(control picker-uppers time - winning time) x 0.05 x # of controls picked up X a distance factor. = time reduction for the control picker-upper. Of course if the winner wanted to go and pick up controls one would need a different formula. OK, OK it's late in the day on a Monday and my mind is doing silly things.

c. which organizer is on a bad drug trip to come up with this idea I thought there was supposed to be a spirit of volunteerism connected with this sport. Did you really have THAT much trouble getting help collecting controls? If you have to bribe people, you are undermining that spirit.

11 A good option might be to list, in addition to course closing time, times at which various parts of the course will be picked up. Otherwise the organizers are trying to guess when people are surely past a certain point.

cool! I will come to the event just to pick up controls and not participate that way I can make \$100!b. brilliant idea, I can make money at events

B - give them beer or vodka coolers if they pick up a group that you assign (no whining about group you get). Cash is too crass and will make some people look stupid when they are exposed as work shirking cheap bastards ;o)

F why would we pay someone to do an unskilled job when we don't pay the qualified course planner or qualified event director? The event director should round up these volunteers beforehand, in the same way (s)he finds a start crew or registrar. Perhaps a map posted at the finish where people can check off which ones they would like to pick up so everyone can clearly see how many are left to pick up. Time between events was also a factor. I picked some up on Friday but then did not have time to eat before the night-o.

a. good idea

E)Wish I had a better idea - yes its the pits picking up controls at the end - everyone is tired - competitors and organizers - we need to market control pickup as a way to improve your orienteering - I'm trying but...as Meet Directors/Controllers we should get our volunteers in advance - perhaps all those people who are morally opposed to casinos can redeem themselves as permanent control picker uppers.....

Not a great idea - probably a strong note to participants when they register, saying they MUST pick up controls at at least 1 event would work well

B. brilliant idea, I can make money at events

That's a tough one. With so many races in such a short time, it doesn't leave a lot of room for picking up controls. Also the fastest people can probably pick up the controls the most efficiently but they have to wait until everyone else has finished and have probably changed and cooled down by then. Maybe control pick-up could be coordinated beforehand so that people know at which event they are picking controls up... that way they make sure they don't rush off.. and perhaps the organizer can assign the controls ahead of time too so when the time comes, everyone gets their list of assigned controls and goes.

c. which organizer is on a bad drug trip to come up with this idea

12. Group camping is

E. but my cousin would kill me if I didn't stay in Calgary.

e. the life center of the BAREBONES CULTURE. To miss it is to miss what barebones is all about.

d. worth every penny to see what zombies people really are in the morning.

e. the life center of the BAREBONES CULTURE. To miss it is to miss what barebones is all about. Plus add the chances of not waking up in the morning... aie aie aie

DON'T KNOW since we didn't camp. At my advanced age (!!!) I like more creature comforts. I do like staying at residential camps, however, as long as they have hot showers.

b. half the fun of barebones

b. , d. and e. Re: c. And here I thought that was just the trains passing by!

b. half the fun of barebones ..but remind me to bring a pillow and perhaps buy a thicker thermarest. I am getting old and creaky.

d. worth every penny to see what zombies people really are in the morning

wasn't actually as groupy as I thought. Although wasn't there much with all the activity and kind of colda. the same as regular camping

E - when dorms were offered at BB2001 it wasn't as good. I hate it whenever the organizers feel they need to separate themselves from the competitors. You see this a lot at BC events.

b. half the fun of barebones

b. half the fun of barebones

d. worth every penny to see what zombies people really are in the morning.

e) but weather can interfere with that sometimes....

the life center of the BAREBONES CULTURE. To miss it is to miss what barebones is all about. Absolutely. I'd much prefer indoor arrangements, however. It was pretty darn cold, and there was less socialising because of the sleeping arrangements.

b. half the fun of barebones

I think the indoor accommodation (like 2002) is ideal because you can socialize even if it is cold and rainy.

b. half the fun of barebones - although a summer event would be better served by camping. This season is not really the best to camp as there is little day light and it takes a lot of time to establish and take down camp.....

13. Should all the events be joined up into a multi day event with the last event being the chase?

None of the above...The one chase is all I can handle stress wise...

b. I was just thinking that myself...there is no ideal time for the Enduro, but a chase at the end of the festival would ensure people stick around at the last event and would leave the event on a higher (festive) note.

E... or at least brag that I've done well by my standards on multiple stand-alone events. The chase means a lot of waiting for beginners

b. I was just thinking that myself, actually, I even think you stole that idea from me. I want my royalties

e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events.

As far as I could see, it really wasn't about winning. With all age classes lumped into one category, I think it's really about having fun. Besides, not everyone likes to do all events, e.g. night O, Enduro. How about a RELAY?

e. no, my kids would rather brag that they won five events.

d. was the organizer still on that bad drug trip?

d. was the organizer still on that bad drug trip They are such very different kinds of event...so .I'd say NO. However, some might say this was a reason to combine them. I would rather have the enduro come last, and not the chase.....from a cumulative fatigue point of view.

cool!c. This would mean real bragging rights for the champion

A - see my answer to #7. Keep the set-up and chase pure as the highlight of BB and the events with the best quality control. When all of the events are as well planned as those 2, then maybe some 5 event champion ala Grand Prix handicap system should be implemented.

A multi day award might be good, but if it was a chase, lots of people might just go home early.

e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events. (rather like separate events)

F. would give bragging rights to the champ, but for most of us who don't have a hope of winning anyhow it wouldn't make a difference.

c) a very cool idea - with reverse start or some might be starting on Monday morning when they should be at work...

e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events.

e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events.

e. no, I'd rather brag that I won five events. There could be a total prize anyhow, but don't make all events part of a last day chase.

14. Should there be a mandatory t-shirt costing \$10-\$15 per entrant.

B. You guys have enough to worry about.

b. no...but I like the idea of purchasing a t-shirt for the event.

b. no

b. Hell no, unless it has been approved by the female Fashion Police

c. can I pay for it by picking up controls? Now there's an incentive - set up an equitable control picking roster, keeping young and old runners in mind. Maybe you could have one design for sale for all, and a special one with something printed in addition (funny) for control pickers. However, maybe this would be so popular that you'd lose money on it!

b. no

b. no

b. no Having mandatory T-shirts is getting a bit hokey. Also, expensive for families

c. can I pay for it by picking up controls

no too many tshirts at home unless it was really cool and dry fit or somethingb. no

B - not unless it can be almost guaranteed to be a classic. No contests, no pre-voting, etc - just pick some designer who will make a good one and give it away at cost as a walking advertisement for next year. You could have post-voting to ask if people want to continue with the tradition (i.e. if it's not a classic then that's the end of it)

b. no

c. can I pay for it by picking up controls? Not mandatory but maybe free to people who pick up more than X controls.

c. can I pay for it by picking up controls?

(seriously - if there was a t-shirt i am sure i would buy it, but if not, i wouldn't miss it.)

B) NoAdrian could never decide on a affordable stay dry stuff that would match any possible O pant Jonathon would wear...Too many t-shirts already - soap was good.

b. no - unless it's dry-fit. No more cotton t-shirts, please. And why make it mandatory? Why not take advance orders, and only go ahead if there are enough takers?

A. YES

b. no

that sounds like extra fluff

b. no - what is the purpose of this ? Most of us have too many t-shirt that we have to donate anyway.

15. My barebones soap

A. I haven't seen my wife yet so haven't been able to give her that lie yet but its coming.

a. saved my marriage because my spouse loved the fact I took time out of my fun weekend away to buy them a thoughtful gift

b. is ten times better than the last car fresher I had

a. saved my marriage because my spouse loved the fact I took time out of my fun weekend away to buy them a thoughtful gift

b. is ten times better than the last car freshener I had.

No kidding, I put it in with my "used" O clothes so they wouldn't smell so bad when I took them out of my pack!

c. a new lease on life after eliminating my dry mature skin

c. a new lease on life after eliminating my dry mature skin

e. is NOT in the mail back to the organizers. It was very useful as I'd forgotten to bring any.

b. is ten times better than the last car fresher I had

I love Rocky Mountain soap and will order some over the internet (we went there sunday night after the enduro but it was closed

LOVE THE SOAP!

most excellent.

a,b,c,

a. saved my marriage because my spouse loved the fact I took time out of my fun weekend away to buy them a thoughtful gift

c. a new lease on life after eliminating my dry mature skin.

Sure, but I am yet to try mine !

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMNETS HERE PLEASE

Here are the highlights for my barebones experience in no particular order: Greeted by Richard at the finish and especially at the registration of the first event. Chatting with Charlotte at the overturned cattle gate before the night O. Set me up for a fine race! Hearing Adrian say the f word when I said I couldn't find #12 at the Chase. I am suitably embarassed about that. You guys are way better orienteers than I! Seeing a large Elk at the Chase. Finding #12 on my way back into the area thinking I was so damn smart with a replacement control. Ooooh, talk about embarassment when I ran smack into the control right where it was supposed to be. Cocky bastard... The snacks! Being able to start whenever I wanted to.

Negative aspects? Can't think of any except perhaps this one. People asking me why I was there! Duh?!

If I had the time and resources I would love to remap Barrier Lake for you guys as I think it is a really good area. Charlotte's course was perfectly fine. It was the map that was confusing in some areas as you know. I regret now that I could have picked up more flags for you guys but after I got the 4 from the classic it seemed I just forgot to offer (I know, selfish bastard). You guys should have asked and I would have done it.

Thanks for your efforts. I will be back if can.

R2

Very well run and organized weekend. I had a lot of fun!

Felt a little guilty for the organizers that had to work so hard over the weekend. I'm sure many aren't even aware of the effort.

Perhaps some more 'barebones' style of course planning can be applied in the future to bring barebones more back to its roots and let the organizers kick back a little.

Only one critical comment – clearer resolution (or color?) on the Enduro map. Plus, I would have preferred to have less 'urban orienteering' on the map. I was prepared for a day in the woods, but it felt more like an ultra-marathon in the City.

R3

Great event!!!!

The organizers were great at never complaining (at least to my face) about having to wait for me to finish a course while they were freezing cold (especially Charlotte guarding the gate at Mt. Laurie!). Many thanks!!

I think Barebones is a great introduction to forest events for those of us that are fairly new to the sport. It would be even better if more of the regular Wednesday night rookies had come since the rookies would have more people close to their own level to compare themselves to (giving us more people to try to compete against). Maybe the event could

be promoted as a "beginner-friendly" event (which I think it is) to get more of us out. Along the same lines, allowing beginners to start the chase course as a regular-O, maybe with a mass start sometime before the

first chase competitor starts might make the event less intimidating to beginners. It would also give the beginners more time to interact with and learn from the vets since the head start would mean they wouldn't be

finishing as long after the vets.

How about holding a "pro-am" event of some sort? Use the results from the Classic to pair the top people with the worst (2nd best with 2nd worst, etc.) and use a single technically challenging course. I think that would be a great learning experience for beginners, would give people in the middle a chance to beat those at the top, and might feed the egos of those at the top. This would be a great way for less-experienced people to see the techniques and tricks the vets likely

use that may be so much second-nature to them that they don't think to tell rookies about them when they're not on a course.

I really liked the Enduro. How often do you get to climb a railway under a pipeline? The course was really well-planned and the controls well-placed. The only suggestion I'd offer is to make sure the contrast of the maps are all comparable. My copy had considerably less contrast than my partner's, and I would have had a lot of problems with control 10 if I were running solo with that particular copy.

Holding the potluck indoors was a great decision!!! The chile and the rest of the food was terrific.

I loved the E-punching, and the instant feedback you get from seeing your splits after downloading.

The location this year was very convenient, being close to both Calgary and Canmore. Having showers and running water near the campsite was a big plus as well.

I'll definitely be back the next time it's held within easy driving distance of Calgary! (don't think I can afford the time/\$\$\$ to travel to Whitehorse if it goes there next year, much as I'd like to :- ()

R4

Barebones should be held in Whistler, with special clothing rules (it's Whistler after all), meaning that you cannot go out unless your outfit has been approved by the fashion police at the start.

We could at the same time hold the first ever World Downhill Orienteering Championships. You only climb if you have screwed up. Also the perfect place for a world string-o event (we kinda lack maps you see?).

R5

1. Need a legend available for newcomers and juniors to check before going out on course.
2. Need IOF control description translation at least posted at the start?
3. Great idea to get more experienced kids to shadow those that need it. They have the energy that the parents lack.
4. Barebones concept is great. Now we need to work on barebones training ideas.
5. Running an event right from your campsite is the best. Next time consider running more than 1 event like that in the same weekend. Great to minimize driving to & fro.
6. will it really be barebones when Richard decides not to man the finish? Who else can do it??!!

R6

Thanks to all of you for a great event. I really enjoyed the weekend. Despite it being 'Barebones' a lot of work obviously still went into it...especially using e-punching. Your control-setters must have been run off their feet! It was very well organized and, most important, fun!

I really can't think of anything to improve.

To lighten the work-load you might want to consider dropping e-punching as it adds a lot of work, although that does contradict what I said for question #10. Perhaps, if it were manual timing, there could be a split sign-up sheet after an event where those interested could record their splits.

I also think you have the right mix of events in that I heard comments from various people that they either 'came for the night-O' or endur-O was their main reason for being there...and for me I prefer the classic style O-events(in daylight).

R7

This was my first Barebones, and I hope it won't be the last. Than you muchly,

R8

Well done!(do I get money off my entry next year since I filled this out) Who want to organise a barebones in Vancouver?

R9

Classic on Friday is hard to gear up for. Night O 90 minutes later is insane! I understand why the sched dictated this, but man it was stressful to try to do it all and many people just passed on one or both, but they were probably bummed about it. I'm glad I didn't skip anything ...it helps make me tough. It was hardest on Mike M as he wanted badly to socialize but spent all his time being lost in the woods or doing baby stuff. If it is not a long weekend, then I think you need to drop an event and drop the price by \$10.

R10

Look into a 'folding chase start' for the chase event. We tortoises don't want to miss the fun of seeing the winners come in - or miss the pot luck!

Thanks to everyone for a fun weekend.

R11

This was my first barebones and I enjoyed it very much. I came to do lots of orienteering so the fact that a couple of maps items were wrong did not bother me much. One item I would have preferred is to do an enduro on orienteering maps only. Perhaps using the Nordic centre with 3 or 4 different courses (ie people going in all different directions) but each person/team would have to finish all the courses. Thanks again for a great weekend. I know it takes lots of uhn ort and time.

R12

I got my butt kicked, but had a blast doing it. I am hoping that by next year I'll be able to still have a blast while NOT getting my butt kicked. Thanks for all your work!

R13

I love Barebones. I like the banquet, the group camping. People don't seem to be hung up on results yet they are competitive. Its just good plan fun. Maybe we could try to get back to a long weekend - some of us

have to work (bummer) and its actually easier to get away for a Friday of a long weekend (people are less demanding)

R14

Thanks for a great weekend.

In response to your request for feedback on the courses. In general I enjoyed myself out there.

The only serious comment I have relates to the first control on the Enduro. Climbing up to it was fine because you could use the rail line under the penstock, but coming down the obvious route was through the steep forest using the trees to slow you down, and going that way Matt and I quite suddenly came to the top of quite a significant sheer cliff. Thinking about it later, it was easy to imagine someone falling down the cliff. You did warn us in the pre event talk that it was steep so be careful, but you also said that you hadn't actually tested the routes to and from the control. If someone had fallen down and sued, the COF insurance may not have covered the claim because it was not an ordinary orienteering event with a map showing the cliff. Placing the control where people were put at risk of falling down the cliff, without checking out the route to the bottom might have been considered negligent by the courts. I think when you are using airphotos that do not give the competitor adequate warning of dangers, any place where danger may lurk such as a steep bank should be checked so that the course can be adjusted, or the danger can be marked on the photo. This should not be too onerous. On this year's course only the area near control 1 needed checking. I admit that Mat and I took a risky route to control 10 which included climbing the steep bit by the hoodoos instead of using the stairs, however, that was our choice and we could see what we were getting into. Also if we had looked on the trail map we would have seen the stairs marked.

On the Classic event, obviously the scale thing confused and upset a number of people. I didn't read that part of the map and didn't realize until I looked at my watch near the end that the course must have been longer than stated. The only other problem was the quantity of deadfall and the mapping of runability which you couldn't do much about.

The setup difficulties related mostly to the map deficiencies in the area of the first control and possibly the second control. Certainly the splits and the number of people who had trouble there indicate that the first control was not a good location and it should probably have been moved to a different map area, or to an easier to find location such as the top of the big hill nearby. My own difficulty in that race was not #1, but my own screw up not reading the control description for #2.

Thanks again for the weekend

R15

Hey Guys, this is the best post-event feedback request I ever saw! A couple of comments on the questions you asked:

I am intrigued by the idea of paying for control pickup. Be interesting to try it as a trial. (though I don't agree that control pickup is one of the most unpleasant tasks . . .)

I'm totally against including a t-shirt in the entry fee. I think that the way to go is to have an optional, extremely stylish, coolmax shirt with barebones logo as an option on the entry form. Barebones could make a great contribution to the cooling of orienteering throughout western Canada!

As to putting all the events into a chase - don't think it would work well, since the accumulated time differences between competitors over 4 events would mostly be too great to catch up in a chase-length event.

Loved the soap!

And barebones coolmax shirts would make excellent prizes. Another thought might be to not offer barebones coolmax shirts for sale, but have them only for organizers and prizes - both doing well in events and for BOPAs. That might keep them as a highly sought-after item.

R16

it is a really great event... i love the set-up and chase and the night sprint (that won't be in the dark next year but i'm sure it'll be a blast anyhow) you could try a one person relay (motala or farsta) for variety

i prefer indoor accommodation to make sure the socializing doesn't suffer if the weather is crappy.

wish i had a magic solution for control pick-up but i think i already said my 2 cents' worth

looking forward to next year!

R17

Don't know if the last day enduro belongs in Barebones. There is no real completion of all the events if the enduro happens the way it did this year. People often scatter after the enduro is completed and the weekend ends with....?

Too little time in between events as we were rushed here and there. You should not have less time for your event because you come there towards the end of the start. All runners must have same max time available to finish the course.! In other words: don't cram too much in a short time.

Never allow anyone else that Richard to be the guy we meet before and after the race !