

2008 United States Amateur Radio Direction Finding Championships

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Hosted by the Houston Orienteering Club and Texas ARDF
May 8-10, 2008

What is it? Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) is the sport of finding radio transmitters on foot, using radio receiver, map, and compass in diverse, wooded terrain. The meet is conducted as a competitive timed event. ARDF is for all ages. All are welcome!

Schedule:

MONDAY – **28 APRIL**: Registration Postmark Deadline
THURSDAY - **8 MAY**: Practice Day, Mandatory Competitor Meeting
FRIDAY - **9 MAY**: 144 MHz Competition, Group Dinner
SATURDAY - **10 MAY**: 3.5 MHz Competition, Awards

Location: Meet site and headquarters: Bastrop State Park, Bastrop, Texas, 35 miles east of Austin on SH 71. From Austin, travel east on SH 71 to SH 95, turn north, then turn east on SH 21. Park entrance will be on right. From Houston, travel west on IH-10 to Columbus, then north on SH 71 to Loop 150, to park entrance on the right. From San Antonio, travel north on IH-35 to San Marcos, then north on SH 21 (SH 21 follows SH 71 and SH 95 through the City of Bastrop). Park entrance will be on right. Follow signs to meet headquarters, which may be in a different location in the park each day.

Organizers: Ken Harker WM5R and Jen Harker W5JEN

Course setter: Jen Harker W5JEN

Categories: Entry categories are divided by gender and age.

Women (W)	Men (M)	Age
W19	M19	19 and younger
W21	M21	Any age
W35	M40	35/40 and older
W50	M50	50 and older
	M60	60 and older

Competitors belong to the M19 or W19 category up to the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 19. Men competitors aged 40 or older or women competitors aged 35 or older qualify for each category from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the given age.

Map: An orienteering map of Bastrop State Park will be used on both competition days. Scale: 1:15,000 minimum. Contour interval: 5 meters.

Equipment: The following equipment is recommended: comfortable running shoes or hiking boots with good traction, long pants or long nylon running pants for protection against underbrush, eye wear for protection against branches, a watch as there is a time limit (3 hours unless noted otherwise), a whistle to call for help if you are injured, amateur radio receiver with directional antenna, and a compass. Competitors may wish to bring their own water and food on course.

Electronic punch system: The event will use SportIdent electronic punches for all timing and control scoring. Competitors with their own SportIdent cards should include their SI card unique identifier on their registration forms.

Rules/Safety: ARDF is an individual sport. Giving or receiving assistance is not allowed. Do not ask for assistance unless you are in fear for your safety and you are willing to be disqualified. The safety bearing for Bastrop is west to paved highways. Please assist any injured person you find. All competitors must report to finish within 3 hours of starting. Use whistles only to call for emergency help.

Awards: Medals will be awarded on both days. Individual medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for each entry category based first on number of required transmitters found, second on time to complete the course.

Accommodations: All participants will be responsible for their own lodging and transportation to the event. The recommended hotel for the events is the Comfort Inn Bastrop (512-321-3303). The hotel is located in the retail district of Bastrop just off SH 71, and is within easy walking distance to a Walgreens, a Radio Shack, a Super Wal-Mart, and many restaurants. The local supermarket chain, HEB, is just on the other side of the state highway. Bastrop State Park is a couple miles/kilometers away, so you will still want a car to get around.

Web Site: Additional information about the meet, including detailed information regarding the rules of the competition is available at: <http://www.texasardf.org/usa2008/>

Fees notes: Bastrop State Park charges a daily entry fee of \$4 per person per day. This entry fee is NOT included in the registration cost. Competitors are responsible for paying this fee on their own and should allow time for the transaction (this can be done on Thursday for all three days) upon entering the park. The registration fee includes group dinner on Friday, and a T-shirt.

Fees: Competitor registration is \$70/person. Extra T-shirts and extra dinners (for spouses, children, or guests) may be purchased at additional charge.

Registration for Event Participation

Houston Orienteering Club

P.O. Box 230251
Houston, TX 77223

All participants must submit a completed registration form and waiver. Those without a completed waiver will not be permitted to participate in the event. Please complete the following in pen.

Registration

Name: _____

Sex: (M/F) _____ Age: _____ IARU Society: _____
(See Categories above) (i.e. ARRL, DARC, RSGB, etc.)

Category: _____ T-shirt Size: _____ SI Card ID: _____
(W19,W21,W35,W50,M19,M21,M40,M50,M60) (S,M,L,XL,XXL) (N/A if you need to borrow one)

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal code: _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____

Registration Fees

	Price	Quantity	Total
Competitor Registration:	\$70.00	<u> 1 </u>	<u>\$70.00</u>
Additional T-shirt:	\$15.00	_____	_____ (Size: _____)
Extra group dinner:	\$15.00	_____	_____
Total:			_____

Make checks payable to Kenneth Harker

Complete and sign the entry form and waiver. A SEPARATE ENTRY FORM WITH SIGNED WAIVER IS REQUIRED FOR EACH PERSON ENTERING THE WOODS. A PARENT MUST SIGN FOR ANYONE UNDER 18 YEARS OLD.

Mail to: Ken Harker, 7009 Fireoak Drive, Austin, TX 78759, Tel 512-944-6443.

Waiver for Event Participation

Houston Orienteering Club

P.O. Box 230251
Houston, TX 77223

All participants must submit a completed registration form and waiver. Those without a completed waiver will not be permitted to participate in the event. Please complete the following in pen.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal code: _____

Country: _____

Waiver of Responsibility

If you do not fully accept the following and do not sign this waiver, you will not be allowed to participate. I, the undersigned, know that Amateur Radio Direction Finding, as an outdoor action sport, carries significant risk of personal injury. I know that there are natural and man-made hazards, environmental conditions, and risks, which in combination with my actions, can cause me serious or possibly even fatal injury. I agree that I as a participant must take an active role in understanding and accepting these risks, conditions and hazards. I also agree that I alone am responsible for my safety while I participate in this event, and not the organizers and officials of this event, the Houston Orienteering Club, the United States Orienteering Federation, the American Radio Relay League, the land owners or managers, the municipality/county/state of the event location, or any sponsors. In consideration of acceptance of this entry, intending to be legally bound, I do for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the United States Orienteering Federation, the Houston Orienteering Club, American Radio Relay League, the event sponsors and organizers, the landowners, and the State of Texas, and their representatives, successors, and assigns, for any injuries or damages to me during or because of this event. I further attest that I am physically fit and capable of participating in this event.

Parent or Guardian MUST sign if entrant is under 18 years of age.

NAME (Please Print)

SIGNATURE (or signature of parent/guardian)

DATE