

Ironwood Score-O, December 5, 2021, by Y. Poe

Perfect desert weather greeted the sixty-six orienteers who came out to Ironwood for the two hour Score-O. Some were escaping colder weather in faraway states such as Virginia and Montana.

Orienteers were able to compete either solo or on teams with a two hour time limit to visit as many of the 17 controls in whichever order they chose. Each control was worth 1 point, and 1 point was deducted from the total score for any minute or portion thereof an orienteer/team was late.

**Jeff Coker** cleared the course in under 1 hour, the overall leader of the 9 who located all 17 controls successfully. **Team Ruination**, led by Junior **Amelia Holmes**, readily located all 17 controls to take 1<sup>st</sup> Team honors, while **Nancy Coker** visited all 17 controls to win the Solo Female category.

Many Junior orienteers attended, several affiliated with groups such as the NJROTC, Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls. It was wonderful to see so many young faces and there were special treats for the youngsters- painted rocks on the course, holiday ornaments, Snickerdoodle cookies, tangerines, and candy canes. The course, geared towards more novice competitors, drew several recent graduates of the "Learn to Orienteer" clinics that have been offered by Tucson and Phoenix O-Clubs.

As a reminder to all participants, it is vital that you check in with the course timing table when finished! This is how we ensure that everyone is safely off of the course, so failure to check in leads to worrying about the person/team safety or whereabouts.

Volunteers are essential for events to take place and we wish to recognize the individuals who provided assistance making this event a success: **Cristina Luis**- vetted the course, assisted with Registration and conducted numerous Beginner's Clinics. **Tim McCormick** assisted with Control Retrieval, Timing and Set Up. **Brad Poe** was the course Setter, Control Retriever and manned the Timing table. **Ludwig Hill, Jeff Brodsky** and **Mark Everett** provided publicity and permitting support, while **Yvonne Poe** was Meet Director.