

**From:** Website Committee <[webcommittee@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:webcommittee@thebluemountains.ca)>

**Sent:** March 14, 2023 12:17 PM

**To:** Town Clerk <[townclerk@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:townclerk@thebluemountains.ca)>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Town Clerk

Submitted on Tue, 03/14/2023 - 12:17

**Name:**

Bob Miller

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**How can we help you?**

Hello, I'm a resident of Town of the Blue Mountains. I want to let Council know about a new orienteering group starting in the Blue Mountains / Collingwood area. It's called Dontgetlost South Georgian Bay and is part of a 56-year-old club based in Hamilton known as Dontgetlost Adventure Running.

<https://www.dontgetlost.org/>

In orienteering, participants use a map and compass to navigate to locations marked on a map, usually in events lasting 1-2 hours. It attracts families with young children who hike together, learning valuable outdoor safety skills while spending time in nature, away from screens. It also attracts elite athletes who run while they navigate, and seniors who want to exercise their minds and bodies. Recent research has shown that orienteering may help to prevent cognitive decline, which has led to new interest from seniors who have never done the sport before.

<https://brighterworld.mcmaster.ca/articles/finding-a-new-way-to-train-the-brain-orienteering/>

Our first event will be at Loree Forest on the morning of Saturday, April 29. We will hold an instructional clinic to teach basic map and compass skills, then we will hold a 1-hour event where participants of all ages will use maps to look for orienteering flags around Loree Forest (Crown Land portion). Both Regular and Novice courses will be offered. There will be a few refreshments and draw prizes afterward. For more information, please see the event web page.

<https://www.dontgetlost.org/loreespring>

In order to keep costs reasonable for families, we wondered whether the Town might be willing to waive parking fees at Loree Forest from 8:30 am to 12 noon on Saturday, April 29. Dontgetlost Adventure Running is a non-profit, volunteer-operated organization with a large children's program known as Adventure Running Kids. Our event fees are low. Currently, if a parent wants to register their child for this event, the early registration fee is \$10 but there will be a \$30 parking fee if a non-resident attends the clinic and stays for refreshments afterwards.

We expect participants will mostly come from the Town of the Blue Mountains and from Collingwood. We are concerned that the parking fee might discourage Collingwood residents from supporting the new orienteering group.

Thanks for your consideration of our request. I'm available to answer questions as needed.

Bob Miller

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