Course Control Map:

Google Earth:

- Orienteering courses at BRP are created using point markers listed on a Google Earth Project labeled "BRP Eagle Project Markers."
- Google Earth tracks the bearings in degrees () and distances in meters (m) needed to go from one point to the next making it an efficient way to create courses.

Step 1: Enter the Google Earth Project labeled "BRP Eagle Project Markers."

• It should look like this: (Gridlines have been turned off for photo taking purposes)



Step 2: Pick a marker for your starting point

• When deciding on a marker to choose, think about the level of difficulty you want your course to be. Beginner courses should have start points close to trail heads or the pace count area while advanced courses can have a marker rendered as a set of coordinates.





Advanced Start Point





Page 1

Step 3: Plot a course

- Now that you have a start point and a level of difficulty in mind, create your course by using the "Path or polygon" tool. This tool is listed under "more" in the interface window located on the left side of the screen.
- Use the "path" tool to link up markers to create a rough sketch of a course. Make sure to save the path to your copy of the project to save your progress as you continue.



I recommend separating the "paths" as you add each point, for example, plotting from Point 1 to Point 2 as one "path" while Point 2 to Point 3 is a separate "path". It will make it easier to get distances and bearings in the next step.







Step 4: Collect bearings and distances between points

- Select the individual "paths" created in step 3 and collect the bearings and distances between each point. By just clicking on the "path" itself which will open a "details" window listing the bearing (or heading) the "path" is pointing as well as the distance the "path" covers.
- Once this information is collected, it can be plugged into a copy of the "All Points" document which will be demonstrated in step 7.

Editing The Control Map Template:

• A copy of the (8.5x11) "All Points" is an editable map template used for creating course control maps with ease.

Step 5: Make a copy of the (8.5x11) "All Points"

Step 6: Map out the course

- This can be done electronically or with a pencil and paper
- Circle the points you want to use for your course.
- Label these points accordingly (Start, End, 1, 2, 3...) and attach lines from each point to the next. Make sure that the order the lines go in follows the order that you want your participants to visit the chosen markers.









Page 3

Step 7: Add the map data to the control description

• Below the map there is a control description area where you can add your bearings and distances collected in step 4.



- When calculating the distance of the course, do not just list the combined distance of all the "paths." Print out the map and use a protractor to measure the distance a person would walk to get to each point using the trail system.
- The grid used on all the maps for the BRP shows that half an inch on the map is equivalent to 100 meters on the trail. Please keep this in mind when using a protractor.







Page 4

Editing the Participant Map Template:

• Using a copy of the "Participant Blank" map makes creating a participant map easy.

Step 8: Create a copy of the (8.5x11) "Participant Blank" map

• It is important to leave all points off this map as that would let participants see where the points are placed and would defeat the purpose of orienteering.

Step 9: Edit the control description

• Using the control description created in step 7, copy and paste it into the "Participant Blank" map. Then remove points listed after their respective data, leaving those areas blank so participants can fill them in as they find the points.





Finalizing the Maps:

• Lastly, turn the maps into PDFs and print them out to use them on your next orienteering adventure.



