**BYRA 50K AROUND THE LAKE RACE GPS MEMO (1-19-16)**

**All competing yachts are requested to carry a cell phone with the marine tracking app. This will aid the race committee in tracking your progress via laptop computer and verifying that all race marks are honored. This also allows friends and the media to follow the race and report on progress.**

**The process for setting up your GPS tracking is described below.**

**GPS TRACKING**

**STEP ONE: OBTAIN A MMSI NUMBER - (Maritime Mobile Service Identity)**

**You will need your vessel VA Registration number off the bow of your boat and a mobile phone number you use on your boat.**

**Once you complete your questionnaire you will receive your free MMSI.**

 **AVAILABLE THROUGH:**

* [**www.usps.org**](http://www.usps.org) **(US Power Squadron)**

**Using this source, go to the “public services” tab. Then click on “get an MMSI number”. Now click on “Login/Register” in the left margin.**

**Now, if you have not registered with the USPS before, click where it says “click here” and complete the questionnaire. When you have completed this, click “add”.**

**Final step: Complete the application for the MMSI number which includes your boat name and VA Registration Number.**

**When you have completed this step completely, the MMSI will be issued immediately but you should receive a confirming email.**

**STEP TWO: OBTAIN Marine Traffic apps for your phone. There are several choices. You need two of them. (I-phone users go to the App Store) (Android users – go to “Google Play”)**

**#1: Search for “mAIS Marine Traffic Ship Position Reporting.” It is a yellow ship icon. Complete the registration. You need to identify your boat name and MMSI, information about your boat like length and beam in meters, call sign and home port. You can use your boat name for a “call name”**

**#2: Search for “Marine Traffic Ships & Wind”, It is a blue ship icon. This app involves setting up an account with MarineTraffic.com.**

**This step is required in order for the mAIS App to send the position of your vessel to Marinetraffic.com and display on the Marine Traffic web site map. There is no charge for this one. Setting up the account requires a user name and password and your email address. After completing this step, check your email. You will have a confirming message that you must reply to in order to complete the registration process.**

**STEP THREE: TURN THE mAIS APP (Yellow ship icon) “ON” WITH YOUR SMART PHONE**

**By pressing the “start” selection. It will indicate “started” and the status indicator at the bottom will indicate when your signal is received. The App will remain on until you press the “stopped” selection. The App uses battery power so do not leave it on for an extended period without an external power source. While the mAIS app is in the “started” (on) position it will send your signal every 60 seconds and your position will be indicated, updated, and stored for several hours on the Marine Traffic site.** [**www.marinetraffic.com**](http://www.marinetraffic.com)

**STEP FOUR: CHECK MARINE TRAFFIC.COM TO SEE IF YOUR BOAT IS BEING TRACKED**

**The first time you visit the marine traffic site, you will likely see a map of the world. You must use the + and – control to zero in on Smith Mountain Lake in Southwest Virginia. Once there you should see an icon indicating your boat location where your smart phone is transmitting from. If it does not show up, follow these steps.**

* **Go to your smart phone’s “settings” app**
* **Scroll down until you come to the MAIS app.**
* **Click on this and check to see if “location” choice is indicating “always”**

 **It must indicate “always”**

* **Back to “settings”. Click on the Marine Traffic app. Check to see that the “Location” status reads “while using.”.**
* **Now exit out of SETTINGS and go to the MAIS app and turn it on by clicking “start”.**

**You should show up on the website map in a few minutes at your location.**

**We have several experienced BYRA sailors who have successfully set up this app on their phones. Please call if you have difficulty and we can help you.**

**Pete Phillip, BYRA Fleet Captain (540) 719-0009**