

Blue Ridge Regatta
Smith Mountain Lake, VA

April 26/27, 2025

Organizing Authority: Blackwater Yacht Racing Association (BYRA)

NOTICE OF RACE (NOR) AND SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

GENERAL

The Blue Ridge Regatta consists of three races, two on Saturday and one on Sunday held on the main body of Smith Mountain Lake.

Shoreside activities will be organized at Pelican Point Yacht Club (PPYC).

Social hours will be held after racing Saturday and Sunday. A potluck dinner will be available after racing Saturday and trophies will be awarded after racing Sunday.

Boats will compete for prizes in multiple classes.

1 RULES

1.1 The event is governed by the Rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2025-2028* including US Sailing Prescriptions (RRS).

1.2 BYRA Wind Rules shall apply:

3 MPH Rule: No class will be started unless the consistent wind is at least 3 mph or, in the judgement of the Race Committee in consultation with the Fleet Captain, boats are able to maintain enough headway that a race can be successfully completed.

20 MPH (17 knots) Rule: No class will be started if the consistent wind exceeds 20 mph or gusts exceed 25 mph (22 knots).

2 RISK STATEMENT

2.1 RRS 3 states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.”

By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of damage or permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, Pelican Point Yacht Club, Inc., sponsors, or any other organization or official) will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of participation in this event. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any and all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

3 EQUIPMENT

3.1 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on all standard US VHF radio channels for pleasure use.

3.2 All boats shall carry equipment required by Virginia law and the RRS, and it is recommended that each boat carry a bucket, knife and anchor with anchor line.

3.3 Boats and their equipment may be inspected at any time.

4 ELIGIBILITY & FEES

- 4.1** The Regatta is open to all Members in Good Standing of BYRA, and non-member guest boats.
- 4.2** The regatta fee is \$30.00 per boat and includes a t-shirt for the skipper.
- 4.3** To participate in the event, a boat must display an identifying sail number or name. A boat may carry a sail with a different number than it is registered with provided that the race committee has been informed during check in. This adjusts RRS 77 and Appendix G 2.

5 ENTRY

- 5.1** Entry forms are attached as Appendix A. Each boat's signed and initialled Entry Form and, if needed, Boat Registration Form must be submitted to the Fleet Captain not later than the skipper's meeting on Saturday.

6 SCHEDULE

- 6.1** See Appendix B attached.

7 CLASSES AND HANDICAPS

- 7.1** Classes shall be established and races handicapped using the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet (PHRF) handicap system. Boats without BYRA PHRF handicaps will be assigned a provisional PHRF handicap by the BYRA Fleet Captain.
- 7.2** Classes will generally be assigned as follows. Adjustments may be made at the discretion of the Fleet Captain. Boats may appeal their class assignment and/or handicap with the Fleet Captain.

Class Designation	General Description
Class I	Boats designed for racing and cruising using spinnakers if owned
Class II	Harbor 20/Alerion 20 One Design Boats
Class III	Heavier displacement boats designed for club racing and cruising using spinnakers or not

8 VENUE/COURSES

- 8.1** The event races will be sailed on Smith Mountain Lake in the main body of the lake. The choice of course type and racing area will be subject to wind conditions on the day of racing and will be announced at the Skipper's Meeting. Competitors will rendezvous in the Blackwater River off PPYC at 1200 hours on Sunday and the course will be announced on VHF. The racing area for upwind/downwind/reaching "around the buoys" races will generally be in the Blackwater River or Bull Run. Distance "Road" courses will generally start and finish in the Blackwater River in the vicinity of PPYC or in Bull Run and will be run around government marks or dropped marks in the Blackwater River/Bull Run/Roanoke River range.

9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)/OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

- 9.1** This NOR/SI, any addendums and scores shall always be available on the BYRA website, www.byrasailing.org in the **Racing Info – Official Notice Board – All Events** tab, Regatta section, which shall be the Official Notice Board for the events.

10 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS/CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1** The SI, any Notices to Competitors and Changes to the SI shall be posted on the Official Notice Board before 1100 of the day they will take effect. Any change to the schedule of races will be posted on the Official Notice Board before 2000 of the day before it will take effect.
- 10.2** A Skipper's Meeting will be held Saturday at 1100 at PPYC. The SI and any Changes to the SI will be reviewed at the skipper's meeting.
- 10.3** The race committee shall communicate oral changes to the SI on the water by broadcasting the change via VHF Radio.
- 10.4** Failure to hear or understand any changes broadcast by VHF or failure to carry a VHF radio shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.4 (b) (1).
- 10.5** On the water, the race committee intends to communicate on VHF radio channel 09. Should channel 09 be in use, the race committee may announce a change of channel. The new channel may be signalled to the fleet by numeral flags hoisted on the committee signal boat.
- 10.6** From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency or to request chase boat services, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions by radio or mobile telephone and shall not receive voice or data communication by radio or mobile telephone containing information that is not available to all boats.

11 CLASS FLAGS

- 11.1** The Class flag for Class I shall be "O" Oscar (red and yellow diagonal).
The Class flag for Class II shall be "G" Golf (blue and yellow vertically striped).
The Class flag for Class III shall be "E" Echo (blue over red striped).

12 COURSES

- 12.1** Around the buoys races shall race around inflatable marks on upwind/downwind/reaching courses. The marks to be rounded shall be displayed on the course board in the order they are to be rounded. Marks which do not begin, end or bound a leg may be left to either side. The start/finish line is not an obstruction.
- 12.2** Appendix C lists marks for "road" courses including the side on which they are to be left and the order in which they are to be rounded.
- 12.3** The course board will indicate the starting order horizontally by line. The top line shall show the first class or classes to start and the course to be sailed by them. The second line shall be the second class or classes to start and the course to be sailed by them, and so on.
- 12.4** Marks displayed on the course board with a plain letter are to be left to port. Marks displayed on the course board with a circled letter are to be left to starboard.
- 12.5** If courses are set which require boats to sail through the start/finish line to allow shortening of the course, "S/F" on the course board will designate that on every upwind leg, boats on the designated course shall sail through the start/finish line. "S/F" will be displayed after the course letters immediately before "F" (for Finish) or "2X" or "3X" if used as described below.
- 12.6** If courses are set on the course board which require multiple laps of the designated course, "2X" or "3X" displayed on the course board immediately in front of "F" (for finish) will designate the number of times boats shall sail the designated course.
- 12.7** Courses and other information concerning a race may be broadcast by VHF radio by the race committee to assist the classes to sail the event. Failure to hear or understand the information provided or failure to carry a VHF radio shall not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.4 (b) (1).

13 MARKS

13.1 For around the buoys races:

The weather mark will be an inflatable orange tetrahedron labelled A on the course board.

The leeward mark will be an inflatable orange tetrahedron labelled C on the course board.

The reaching mark will be an inflatable orange cylinder labelled B on the course board.

A weather offset mark, if used, will be an inflatable orange ball.

A leeward gate, if used, will be an inflatable orange tetrahedron on one side and an inflatable orange cylinder or ball on the other side and shall be denoted as C on the course board.

The race committee may change the shape and/or color of a mark, and if so, shall confirm the change orally on the water by VHF radio.

Under certain wind conditions, government marks may be substituted for the weather, reaching or leeward marks. In case government marks are substituted they will be identified on the course board by their government mark number and the change may be confirmed via VHF radio.

13.2 For road courses:

Government marks listed in Appendix C will be used or an inflatable mark may be placed in close proximity to the specified government mark. If inflatable marks are used, boats shall round the inflatable mark leaving it on the side specified in Appendix C.

13.3 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee may move a mark or will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

13.4 Changes to courses or shortening of courses shall be signalled as described in RRS 32 and 33 and RRS Race Signals and may be confirmed via VHF radio..

14 SAFETY REGULATIONS

14.1 Boats shall check in with the race committee signal boat in person before the first race of any day announcing their name, sail number, and intention to race with or without a spinnaker.

14.2 If a boat intends to change from spinnaker to non-spinnaker or vice versa between races they shall check in with the race committee signal boat in person between races.

14.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity either in person, or by advising the chase boat, or by VHF radio.

14.4 Boats requiring assistance from the race committee or chase boat shall contact the race committee by VHF radio giving their sail number and location and the type of assistance required, including a description of illness or injury if medical assistance is required.

14.5 In case of dangerous weather such as thunderstorms, the Race Committee may postpone or abandon races which shall be announced via VHF radio.

15 THE START

15.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.

15.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the pin end of the line and the Class flag on the committee signal boat.

15.3 In accordance with RRS 23.1, boats whose warning signal has not been made shall make every possible effort to avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

15.4 Individual Recall When any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified and the race committee displays the Individual Recall flag X with a single sound signal per RRS 29.1, it will attempt to hail her verbally or via VHF radio. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a request for redress. This changes RRS 61.4 (b) (1).

- 15.5 General Recall** When the race committee signals a General Recall per RRS 29.2 and displays the First Substitute with two sounds, the class or classes recalled will start last, after all other classes have started. This changes RRS 29.2.

16 THE FINISH

- 16.1** The finishing line is between the pin end of the finish line and a staff displaying a blue flag on the committee signal boat.

17 PROPULSION

- 17.1** While racing, a boat may not use her engine after her class preparatory signal except to get clear after grounding or a collision, provided the boat does not gain a significant advantage in the race. This changes RRS 42.3 (h) and RRS 42.3 (i).

18 TIME LIMITS

- 18.1** The Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below.

Course Type	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
Around the Buoys	90 minutes	30 minutes
Road Courses	3 hours	90 minutes

- 18.2** If no boat has finished within the Race Time Limit, the race shall be abandoned. The time limit for all classes commences at the first starting signal.
- 18.3** The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat in their class starts, sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, being penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

19 SCORING PENALTY

- 19.1** RRS Appendix V2 shall apply.

20 PROTEST HEARING REQUESTS

- 20.1** Any boat protesting another boat shall notify the race committee as soon as practical after finishing or retiring.
- 20.2** The Protest Time Limit is 45 minutes after the race committee boat has returned to the dock at the end of racing for the day. The race committee shall record the time the race committee boat has returned to the dock and the time the protest was received. This adjusts RRS 60.3(b).
- 20.3** Protests shall be delivered to the Race Committee within the Protest Time Limit. The Protest must conform to RRS 60.3(a). This modifies RRS 60.3(b).
- 20.4** Protests shall be heard by the Protest Committee as soon after the protest is delivered as possible.
- 20.5** A protest may be withdrawn by the Protestor at any time prior to the announcement of the Protest Committee decision.

21 SCORING

- 21.1** See Appendix D attached.

22 PRIZES

22.1 Prizes will be awarded as follows.

- a) For each class with three or more boats competing, prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place finishes.
- b) For classes with fewer than three participants, prizes will be awarded for the boats competing.

23 INSURANCE

23.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance.

24 MEDIA

24.1 Competitors give absolute right and permission for any photograph and video footage taken of themselves, their crew and the boat they are sailing during the events to be published in any media.

25 CODE OF CONDUCT

25.1 Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from Race Officials and conduct themselves in a gracious manner.

25.2 All boats' crews shall comply with PPYC rules and regulations and reasonable requests from PPYC management while on PPYC property.

26 FURTHER INFORMATION

26.1 For further information please contact the BYRA Fleet Captain by email or phone as listed on the BYRA website – www.byrasailing.org in the **About Us** tab.

Blue Ridge Regatta
Smith Mountain Lake, Union Hall, VA
NOR/SI APPENDIX A – ENTRY FORM

Boat Name		
Boat Owner		
Yacht Club		
Sail or Hull Number (specify)		
BYRA Handicap (if known)		
Handicap Modifiers A Genoa LP greater than 155%, -5 seconds/mile B Working Jib 100% or less, +5 seconds/mile C1 Headsail Roller Furling, + 3 seconds/mile C2 Mainsail Roller Furling, + 3 seconds/mile D Non-folding, Fixed Blade Propeller, + 3 seconds/mile E Shoal Draft not defined in PHRF Tables, + 6 seconds/mile F ODR (One Design Racer, no modifiers allowed) G Other (Describe, i.e. rig, keel or rudder modified)		List Modifiers
Class (if known)		
Skipper or Person in Charge		
Mailing Address		
Email		
Cell Phone		
Liability Insurance Declaration Initials:	I declare that the boat being entered in this event is covered by valid liability insurance and will be for the entire period it will participate in any BYRA event.	
Rules Acceptance Declaration Initials:	<p>I agree to be bound by <i>The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021 – 2024</i> including US Prescriptions and all other rules that govern this event. In particular I confirm that I have read the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions and accept its provisions and agree that my boat will conform to the requirements set out in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions throughout the event.</p> <p>To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby waive any rights I may have to sue the race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, Pelican Point Yacht Club Inc., sponsors, or any other organization or official) involved with the event with respect to personal injury or property damage suffered by myself or my crew as a result of participation in this event and hereby release the race organizers from any liability for such injury or damage.</p>	
Signature of Owner, Skipper or Person in Charge		

Blue Ridge Regatta
Smith Mountain Lake, Union Hall, VA

NOR/SI APPENDIX B – SCHEDULE OF RACES

B 1 Dates of racing:

Date	
04/26/2025	Races 1 & 2 followed by social hour and potluck dinner
04/27/2025	Race 3 followed by social hour and awards ceremony at 1530

B 2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 1200. This time may be adjusted at the skipper's meeting or on the water by announcement via VHF radio. This changes RRS 90.2 (c).

B 3 Due to wind and/or course considerations the race committee may not be able to make the first warning signal at 1200. The first warning signal will be made as soon as practical after the committee boat has been anchored or the race committee shall postpone the race.

B 4 If the starting sequence for a race is not started within two hours of the postponement signal having been displayed, the race shall be abandoned and there will be no further racing that day. If a race or races are abandoned on Saturday, they may be rescheduled for Sunday. If multiple postponements occur during one day's races, each postponement shall restart the two hour postponement window.

B 5 On any scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1500.

B 6 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the "Come within Hail" L flag will be displayed with one short sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is made and an announcement shall be broadcast via VHF radio.

Blue Ridge Regatta
Smith Mountain Lake, Union Hall, VA
NOR/SI Appendix C – ROAD COURSES

All government marks on Road Courses are to be honored except when a government mark is used as a rounding mark.

Courses will Start and Finish off PPYC or in Bull Run, wind conditions permitting.

The Lakestone/Christmas Tree Island passage may be used except on low water courses when it shall be an obstruction.

Course A R6 and Rabbit Island 8.88 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

R6 Port

Rabbit Island Port

Finish

Course B Bull Run (from PPYC only) 5.03 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

BU5 Port

Christmas Tree Island Port

Finish

Course C Rabbit Island 6.78 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Rabbit Island Port

Finish

Course D Bull Run and Roanoke 9.38 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

BU 5 Port

R6 Port

Finish

Course E Bull Run, R6 and Rabbit Island 10.92 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

BU 5 Port

R6 Port

Rabbit Island Port

Finish

Course F Rock Island 11.04 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Rock Island Port

Finish

Course G Roanoke River 11.7 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

R6 Port

R11 Port

Drop Mark near R14 Port

R11 Starboard

Finish

Course H Rock 'N Rabbit 12.61 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

R6 Port

R4 Port

Rock Island Port

R4 Starboard

R6 Starboard

Rabbit Island

Finish

Low Water Courses

Lakestone/Christmas Tree Island Passage shall be an obstruction for
Courses J through O listed below.

Course J R6 and Rabbit Island 8.88 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Drop Mark near B2 Port

Drop Mark at R6 Port

Rabbit Island Port

Drop Mark near B2 Starboard

Finish

Course K Bull Run (from PPYC only) 5.54 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Christmas Tree Island Starboard

Drop Mark at BU5 Port

Christmas Tree Island Port

Finish

Course L Rabbit Island 6.80 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Drop Mark near B2 Port

Rabbit Island Port

Drop Mark near B2 Starboard

Finish

Course M Bull Run and Roanoke 9.39 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Drop Mark near BU5 Port

Drop Mark near B2 Port

Drop Mark near R6 Port

Drop Mark near B2 Starboard

Finish

Course N Bull Run, R6 and Rabbit Island 11.44 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Drop Mark near BU5 Port

Drop Mark near B2 Port

Drop Mark near R6 Port

Rabbit Island Port

Drop Mark near B2 Starboard

Finish

Course O Rock 'N Rabbit 12.61 NM

Mark Leave Mark To

Start

Drop Mark near B2 Port

R6 Port

R4 Port

Rock Island Port

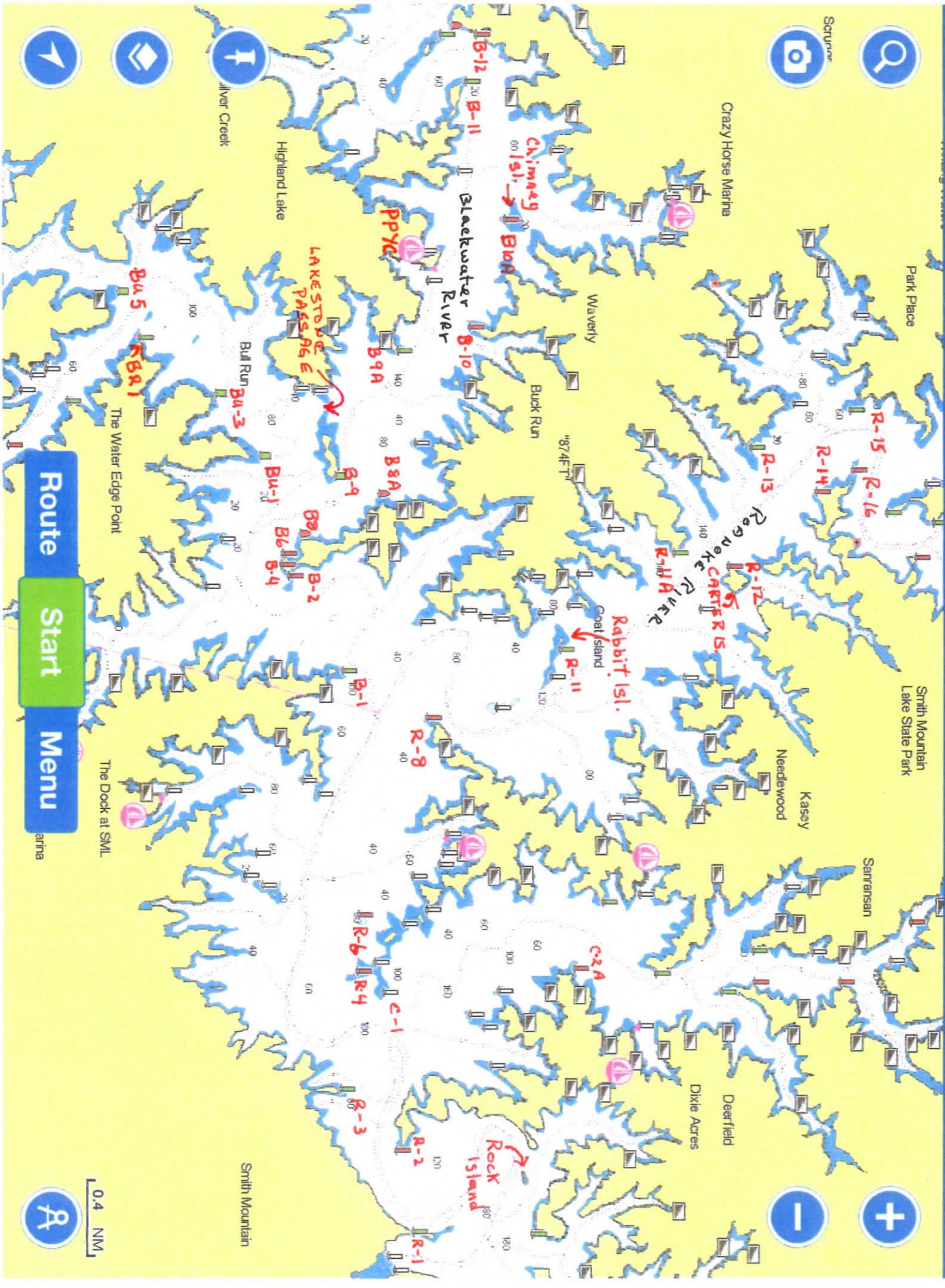
R4 Starboard

R6 Starboard

Rabbit Island Port

Drop Mark near B2 Starboard

Finish



Route Start Menu

0.4 NM

Blue Ridge Regatta
Smith Mountain Lake, Union Hall, VA
NOR/SI APPENDIX D - SCORING

- D 1 RRS Appendix A Low Point Scoring System will be used as adjusted below.
- D 2 Race results shall be calculated using the Time-on-Time method using light air time correction factors.
- D 3 **Regatta Scoring**
- (a) All boats competing in the Blue Ridge Regatta will be scored.
 - (b) A boat which enters the Regatta shall be registered when she completes at least one race.
 - (c) Each boat finishing a race and not thereafter retiring, being penalized or given redress will be scored as follows:

<u>Finishing Place</u>	<u>Points</u>
First	1
Second	2
Third	3
Each place thereafter	Add 1 point

 - 1) Boats that are registered to compete but do not come to the starting area will be recorded DNC and will not be scored.
 - 2) Boats that are registered to compete and are in the starting area but notify the race committee that they are withdrawing before the first warning signal of the race will be recorded as DNC and will not be scored.
 - 3) Other boats that compete in that race, including boats that come to the starting area but do not start (DNS), finish and thereafter retire (DNF), or are disqualified (DSQ) will receive the score for the finishing place one more than the number of boats competing in that class in that race.
 - 4) Boats not finishing within the finishing window time limit stated in the sailing instructions shall be scored TLE. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. The race will count towards series qualification.
 - 5) This changes RRS A 2.2, A5.2 and A5.3.
 - (d) No races shall be excluded from scoring. This modifies RRS A 2.1
 - (e) The boat with the lowest average score is the winner and the others are ranked accordingly.
 - (f) Prizes will be awarded based on the boat's score.
 - (g) Race and Regatta ties will be broken in accordance with RRS Appendix A