

Announcing the Fall 2024 Degray Lake Sailing Challenge. This is a sailing activity designed for fun and to challenge our sailing abilities.

Skippers will sail a predetermined course as many times as the skipper desires and report the times. At the annual meeting we will recognize the skipper who had the best improvement in time and the skipper who had the fastest time. Notice, it is based on the skipper's best time, not the boat's. A boat may be used by multiple skippers, but only one skipper per attempt. And a skipper may submit times from more than one boat. There is a lot of flexibility here.

The course is from the marina where you start to the other marina and back to the marina where you started. The course doesn't change. Only the conditions change. Depending on the wind direction, there could be windward legs, reaching legs, and downwind legs.

The course can be sailed on any day at any time in any wind condition as many times as you like on as many days as you like with or without a crew. The idea is that each time you sail the course you try to better your best time. You might be the only skipper sailing the day you choose or there might be other skippers sailing the same day and some skippers may start at the Iron Mountain Marina and the others at the Degray State Park Marina. Who knows? It all works.

Each time you sail the course report the date you sailed, the boat you sailed, whether you had a crew or not, and your time(s) to me via text message. I'll keep the records. Each skipper will have an IMYC modified PHRF rating based on the boat. The rating will be used to adjust times to account for each boat's hull speed.

Here is the course for skippers starting at the Degray State Park Marina:

1. Starting line - the imaginary line between the sign on the end of the break water and the identical one ashore.
2. Sail to island "F" and pass it on port.
3. Sail to island "B" and pass it on starboard.
4. Sail to the Iron Mountain Marina and completely cross the buoy line between buoys 4 & 5.
5. Reverse your course, cross the buoy line, sail to island "B", and pass it on port.
6. Sail to island "F" and pass it on starboard.
7. Sail to the Degray State Park Marina and cross the finish line which earlier was your starting line.

Here is the course for skippers starting at the Iron Mountain Marina:

1. Starting Line – An imaginary line between buoys 4 & 5.
2. Sail to island "B" and pass it on port.
3. Sail to island "F" and pass it on starboard.
4. Sail to the Degray State Park Marina and completely cross the imaginary line between the sign on the end of the break water and the identical sign on the shore.
5. Reverse your course, cross the imaginary line, sail to island "F", and pass on port.
6. Process to island "B" and pass it on starboard.
7. Sail to the Iron Mountain Marina and cross the finish line which earlier was your starting line.

The first map shown below shows in red the course. The round trip distance is about 6.7 statute miles which is about 5.8 nautical miles. The islands are labeled by letter.

Contact me with any questions.

Sail On!
Chuck Atkinson
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