

MARKKO CUP

August 29th, 2026

Presented by the:

GRAND RIVER SAILING CLUB (GRSC)

ASHTABULA YACHT CLUB (AYC)

NOR'EAST OHIO SAILING ALLIANCE (NEOSA)

Organizing Authority: GRSC

NOTICE OF RACE

1 RULES

1.1 The race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, except as amended by this Notice of Race (NoR) or the Sailing Instructions (SI).

1.2 US Sailing Prescriptions to RRS 63.1(b) shall not apply.

1.3 The GRSC Race Committee, at its sole discretion, whose decision is final and without appeal, shall determine eligibility and placement within divisions for PHRF (spin), JAM (non-spin), and Cruising Canvas divisions.

1.4 RRS 60.1 is changed to prohibit a boat from protesting another boat for an alleged breach of a class rule requiring membership.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 The sailing instructions will be available no later than 1700 on Friday, August 28th, 2026; and posted in the documents section of the ClubSpot website for the event at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/oW3BTBAwCH>

3 COMMUNICATION

3.1 The official notice board will be the ClubSpot website for the event at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/oW3BTBAwCH>

3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on U.S. VHF channels

3.3 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio Channel 80.

3.4 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

3.5 This will be a pursuit race with pre-assigned start times for each participating boat. There will be no race committee at the start or finish lines. Teams will be expected to start correctly based on their assigned start time and to record and report their own finish time.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The event is open to all boats whose owners are members of US Sailing or other national authority, or members of recognized yacht clubs, or members of recognized sailing class associations.

4.2 A current PHRF or PHRF-LE rating is required for all boats participating in the PHRF and Cruising Canvas (spin) or JAM (non-spin) classes. Boats without a current and valid PHRF-LE measurement certificate will be assigned a handicap adjusted to PHRF-LE standards. Any such assigned ratings shall be valid for this event only and are not subject to redress.

4.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing the registration form and paying the entrance fee via the ClubSpot website for the event at:

<https://theclubspot.com/regatta/oW3BTBAwch>

4.4 No entries for the event will be accepted after 2000 Thursday, August 27th 2026, unless authorized by the Race Chairperson.

4.5 Cruising Canvas Class definition/requirements: This class consists of cruising boats with bow anchors and bimini canvas in place, and the following allowable sails: mainsail, roller furling jib (maximum headsail size 155% LP), asymmetrical or cruising spinnaker which shall be attached to a midline tack-line, which may be adjustable as defined by the PHRF certificate. Symmetrical spinnakers are not allowed. Staysails are permitted only as under the Jib and Main (JAM) rules. Use of a whisker pole on the clew of the jib is permitted. A two-masted boat may fly a mizzen staysail from the mizzen mast. PHRF-LE spinnaker ratings will be utilized for scoring purposes.

5 FEES

5.1 The entry fee for this race is \$40.00 payable via the ClubSpot website for the event at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/oW3BTBAwch>

6 VENUE

6.1 The race shall be sailed on Lake Erie from north of Mentor Harbor to Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio.

7 SCHEDULE

7.1 This will be a pursuit race with individual, handicapped start times assigned based on the course length.

7.2 The highest rated boat from any class will be the first boat(s) scheduled to start. The first scheduled start time will be at 0900, from which the start times for all other boats in all classes will be calculated.

7.3 If the weather conditions dictate, course shortening options may be possible.

8 COURSES

8.1 The full course is calculated at 28 nautical miles. The race will start off the end of Mentor Harbor's western entrance red triangular channel marker and MHYC's "S" Mark, then proceed north of GRSC's "G" Mark (keeping boats away from the Fairport Harbor's main entrance), and finish inside the Ashtabula Harbor at the two navigational buoys AYC uses for the finish line for their races. (See Appendix A for Start, Finish, and Mark Charts and Coordinates.)

8.2 If the weather conditions dictate, course shortening options may be possible. A volunteered committee boat and a set temporary mark will serve as the start-line at a shorter fixed distance from the AYC finish line. A spreadsheet with start times after the first start will be provided with the SI for reduced course length options (e.g. 15, 10, 5 nm).

9 PENALTY SYSTEM

9.1 Appendix V applies.

9.2 Appendix T1 - Post-Race Penalties shall apply for this regatta.

10 SCORING

10.1 The scoring system is defined in RRS Appendix A4.

11 PRIZES

11.1 Keeper awards will be presented to the first, second, and third place finishers in each class or division.

11.2 The overall winners of each class (Spinnaker, Cruising Canvas, and JAM) will have their names engraved on the historic Rowley Cup Trophy that will continue to be displayed at the Ashtabula YC.

12 DOCKING AND LAUNCHING

12.1 It is expected that boats from the Lake County Clubs (CLYC and GRSC) will arrive at the starting area from their respective clubs.

12.2 Boats intending to secure overnight or extended dockage or launching at MHYC must pre-register with the Race Chairperson: Todd Rogers at 440-278-9031 or toddrogers60@gmail.com

12.3 Dockage will be available after the race at AYC, but it is recommended for participants to additionally enter and/or donate to the AYC YMCA Race to be held on Sept. 6th, which benefits their youth boating education programs.

13 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

13.1 Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RSS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

14 INSURANCE

14.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

15 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact the Race Chairperson: Todd Rogers at 440-278-9031 or toddrogers60@gmail.com

Appendix A

Start, Finish, and Mark Coordinates and Charts

Start Line

Start Line North Mark

MHYC “S” Mark - Round Red Buoy “Tomato”:

41° 43.78' N

81° 21.31' W

Start Line South Mark

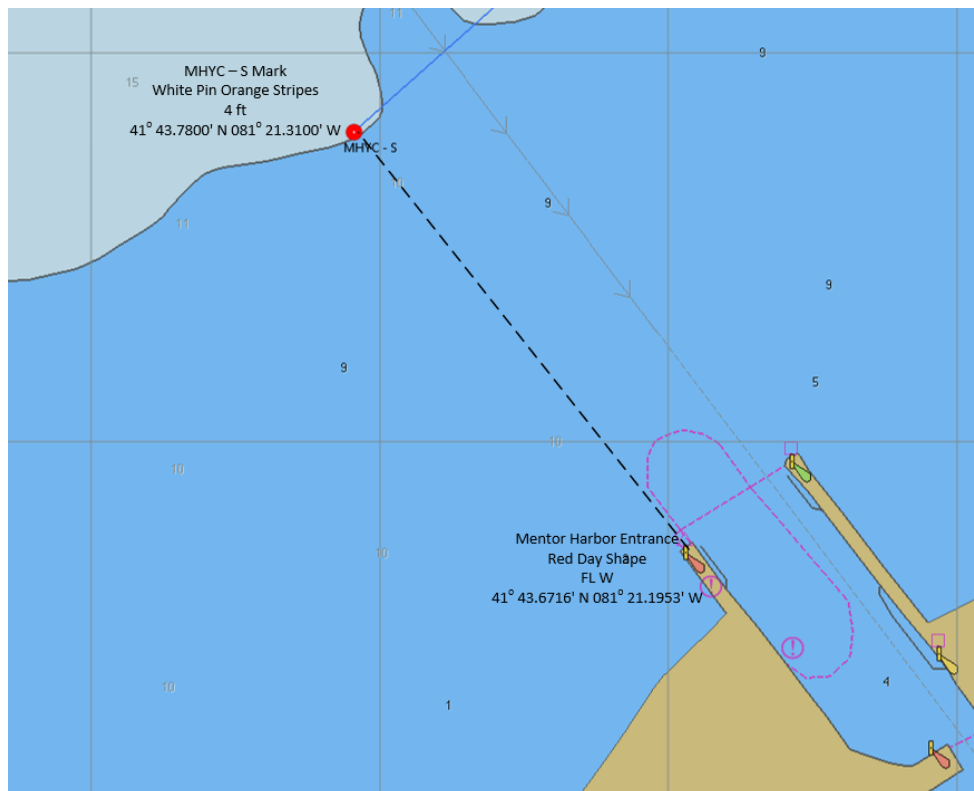
Mentor Harbor Entrance

Red Day Shape

41° 43.67' N

81° 21.20' W

Pre-Start Side is West of the Line

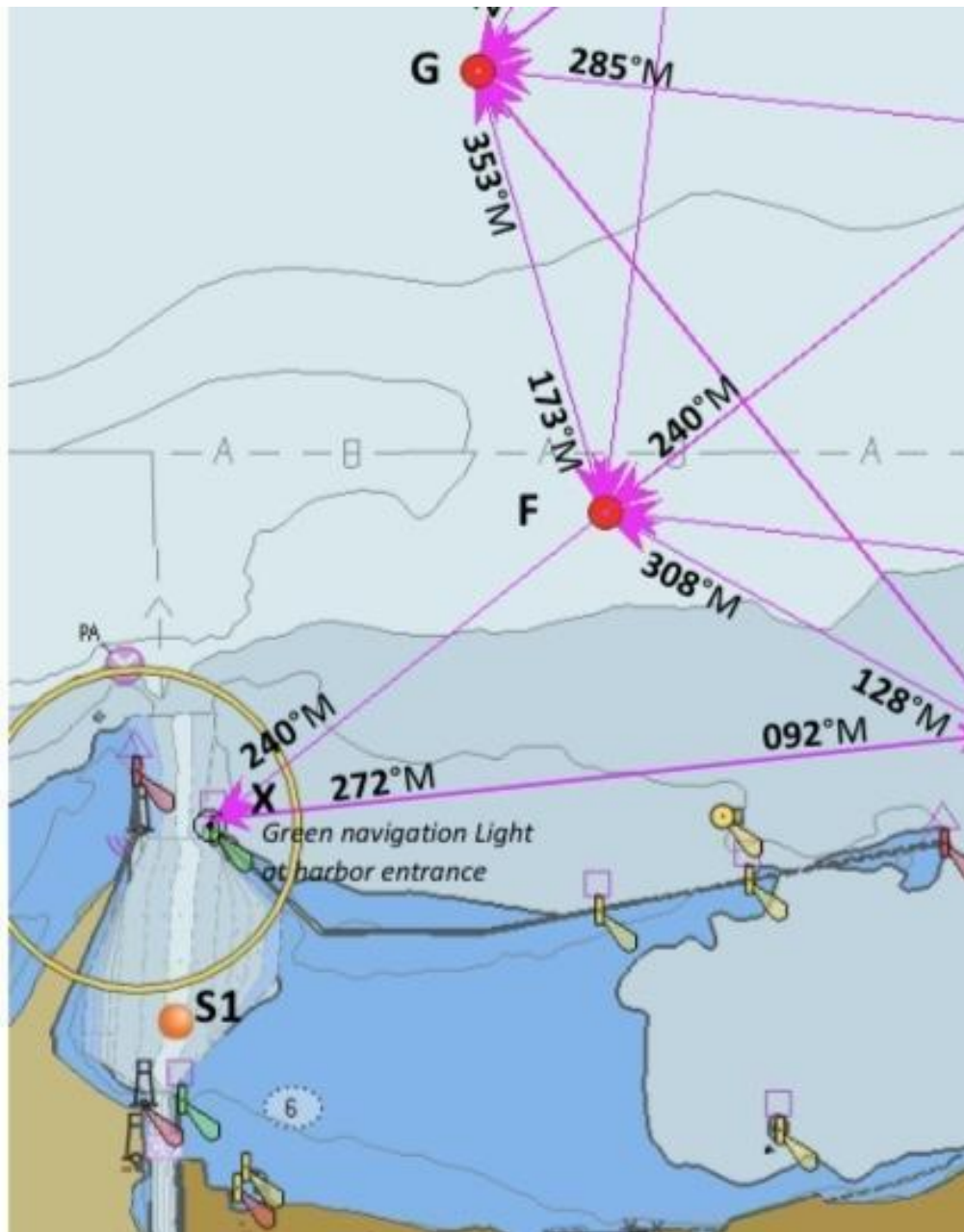


GRSC "G" Mark:

41° 47.14' N

81° 16.23' W

Pass North of GRSC "G" Mark



Finish Line

Finish Line North Mark: Green Harbor Buoy 3

41° 55.08' N

80° 47.51' W

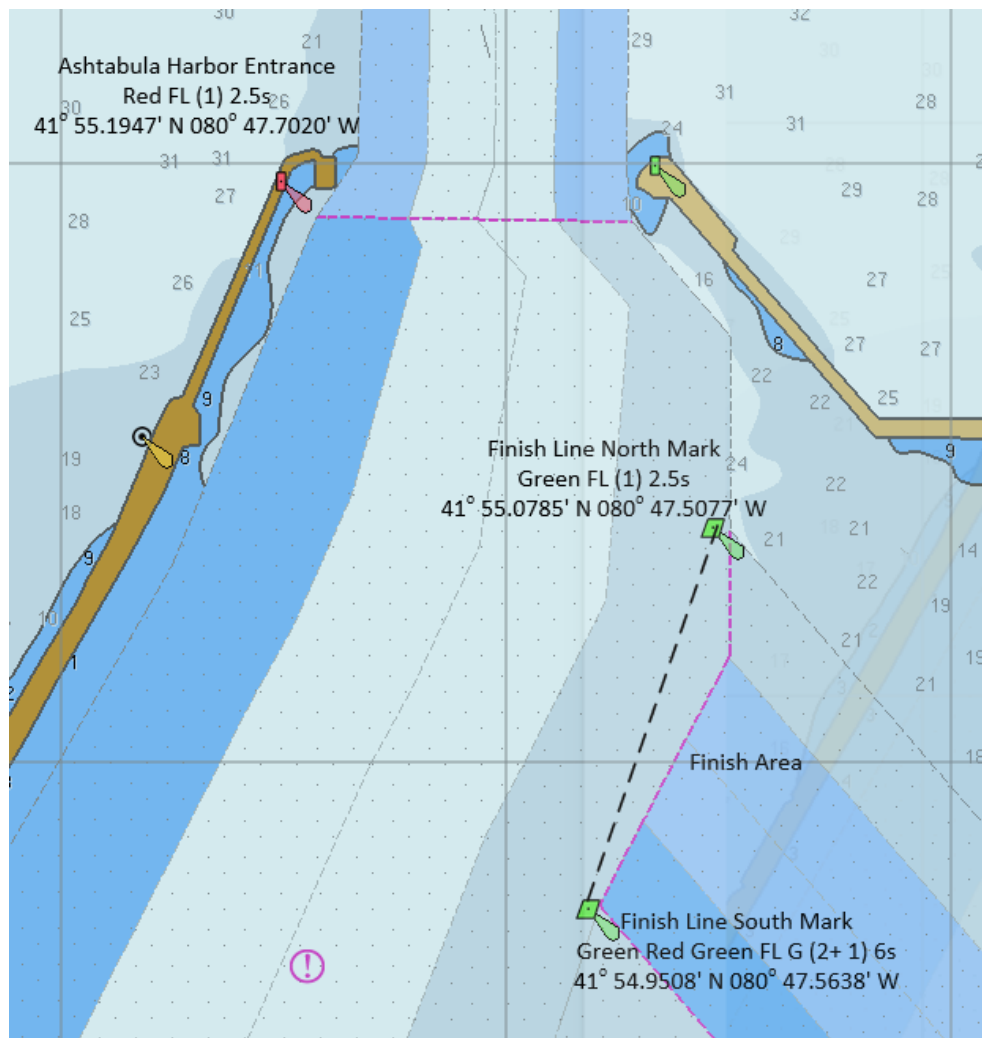
Finish Line South Mark: Green and Red Junction Buoy A

41° 54.95' N

80° 47.56' W

Finish from West to East

Avoid the shallow hazard area to the North & East of the finishing line and channel.



Ashtabula River to Ashtabula YC

The Ashtabula River is the westernmost channel.

AYC is on the west side of the river, past the SR 531 bascule lift bridge. The bridge lifts every half hour.

Dockage will be available at the AYC transient docks and off boats up river on "C" dock. (Rafting will likely be required.)

