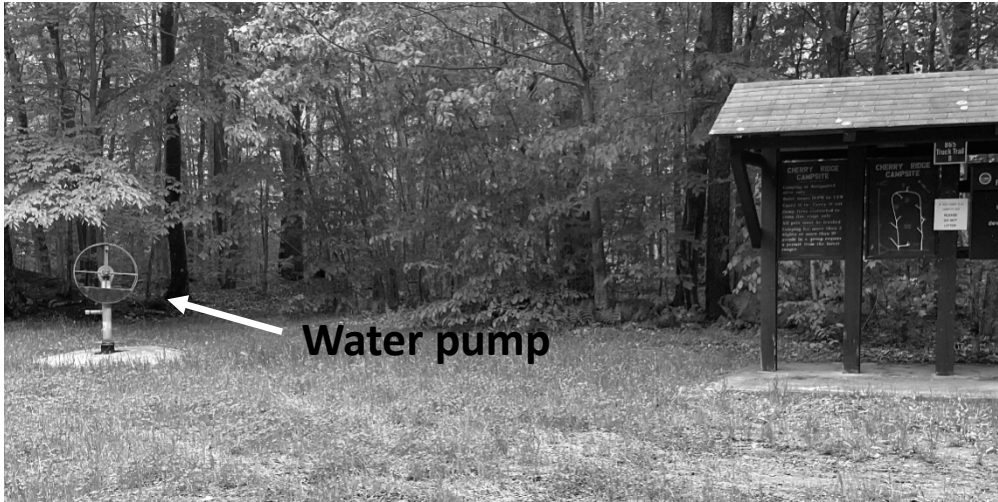


Course Setter's Notes for the 2025 Charles Baker Rogaine

Specific to this map. There are 6 water stops indicated on the map with a cup symbol. On the end of the control descriptions they have numbers W1-W6. W1 is an unusual (and not very efficient) pump at the entrance to a campground and requires a lot of rotating of a weighted wheel to eventually get a thin stream of water to emerge (pump is at left side of picture at end of paragraph). W2 is a spring along the side of a road with a pipe coming out of the hillside and a small pullout on the side of the road, and should be obviously visible. The other sites will have two or three 6-gallon water containers, and possibly some 1 gallon jugs, and will be marked by control signs and reflectors, though having no point value attached to them.



One of the controls in the southeastern part of the map, #61, turns out to be only reasonably approachable from the road to the east. Since 6 years ago, the stream just to the west of the control has become widened by beavers and this spring's heavy rain to become pretty much uncrossable except on road bridges.

Control #86 is inadvertently listed as a boulder bend on the map. It is not a particularly bent boulder.

Where you are allowed to travel on the map. You must stay on public lands at all times, either within the three state forests, or on public roads connecting these areas. The public roads will be indicated on the map with either gray or brown infill, and black sidelines. Roads that do not connect on each end to another public road, but terminate in private land are not permissible for travel. Two that might be ambiguous (near controls 84 and 88) have been marked by purple X's to indicate they are not permitted for use. The state forest lands are marked on the ground by yellow blaze marks painted on trees, and occasionally by metal DEC signs on trees or posts. Often they are also indicated by NO TRESPASSING signs put up by private landowners on the other side of the line. They can occasionally be convenient linear features to follow. Sometimes they are hard to find (couldn't see any signs of yellow markers on trees just north of control #88, for example). On the map they are indicated by red lines with small tick marks on the allowed side, and a pink strip on the prohibited side. This restriction will inevitably in some cases lead to significant extra distance to get to some controls, but we want strict adherence to the rule by all competitors. We need to use state lands in the future, and good relations with land managers would be severely affected by complaints from private landowners about trespassing. It is also a question of fairness. There is one area in the northern part of the map that has been marked out-of-bounds with purple overlay because of current logging operations. Stay out of that area! The course size is such that there might be one or two teams that are able to visit all 51 controls within the 24 hour time limit, though that might depend somewhat on the weather conditions on the day of the race.

There are a large number of equestrian users of the many horse trails on this map. Please be courteous to these other users, and don't scare the horses. There is a competitive trail riding event also being held this weekend (including one division with a running/trail riding relay version), so maybe a few more horses than usual on some of the trails.

Procedures: Maps will be handed out at 10 am Saturday, and you can begin your planning. There will be a mass start at noon on Saturday. Before you start, you must turn in a sheet giving a list of the order of controls which you intend to visit. This is primarily to assist in the eventuality of a team getting lost or injured, necessitating a search. Plans may change during the day, but it at least provides us with a starting point. Scoring will be done by conventional pin punching on a Tyvek card which will be issued to each team. At each control site there will be an orange and white sheet-metal marker tied around a tree trunk at about eye level, the pin punch, a reflective cylinder nearby for aid at night, and also a sign-in board on which you should enter your team number and name, time of day, and the next control you plan to visit. This is for safety purposes, in case somebody does not get back and we have to do a search operation. Please fill this in correctly at each control you visit. An example of a typical control location will be available to examine before the race start. You will be penalized 10 points per minute (or fraction thereof) for every minute you are late on your return. After 30 minutes late, you will be disqualified. Even if you get back more than 30 minutes late, you **must** return to the finish so we know you are back, and don't initiate search procedures. **If it looks as if you may be over 30 minutes late (and you have cell service) call me at 607-288-2017 so we know your status!** Controls have a value of 10 times the first digit of the control code, with a maximum possible score of 2980 points.

The map is on a sheet of approximately 20" x 25" inches in size, at a scale of 1:30,000, with 5 meter contours. The maps are not printed on waterproof paper, but we will be issuing plastic bags that you can use to protect them.

The map is less detailed than a normal orienteering map, but has a lot more features than a standard USGS topo map shown on it. It has been derived largely from DEM models for the contours and use of aerial orthophotography for much of the vegetation, roads, houses, tracks, etc. There has been some on-the-ground field checking done while placing control markers, but this is not exhaustive, representing mostly things that were noticed as being different from the basemap when setting controls. Tracks shown on the map might be foot trails, logging roads, or mere vestiges of logging roads that might be more useful as a guide for locating your position if you notice one in the woods than as something that will speed progress. There are certainly other old logging roads and probably trails that are on the ground but were not noticed when doing the mapping. The horse trails seem to get moved around somewhat over the years, often to bypass sections that had become excessively muddy. I made changes on the map for a number of these while I was putting out controls, but doubtless there are others which I didn't use, so didn't get remapped. Much of the woods is pretty open, but certainly not all. Some areas are marked with vertical green stripes as being very slow going, usually from past logging operations. There are probably others just as bad that didn't happen to be noticed in the process of putting out controls, and other areas may be in an intermediate state of partial recovery from past logging activity. Green on the map does not signify slow going in the woods as on a normal orienteering map, but the presence of a significant proportion of conifers in that section of woodland (something that can be determined easily from the air photos, and during the winter when all the deciduous leaves are on the ground, but are still useful although less immediately obvious in the woods during the summer. Streams shown on the map will probably almost all have at least some water in them this weekend, but maybe not enough to be considered as a useful drinking source in some cases. Any ground water from streams and ponds should be treated before drinking. Yellow on the map signifies open land, light yellow rough open land. Most of that yellow land is going to be private property, and more useful for knowing where you are on a road or near the forest boundary than a place you are allowed to travel through. There are quite a lot of cultural artifacts on the map, one or two of them used as control features—stone piles, stone walls, ruins, dug wells, etc. left from a time when this area was farmland a hundred years ago. The stone walls are typically much less evident than those in the Hudson Valley, where the ground is a lot rockier. The stone piles vary in size from quite large to quite tiny. The ruins are typically old cellar pits—holes in the ground lined with gradually decaying stone walls, not visible from a great distance.

Insects: There will probably be some mosquitoes around particularly in the evening if you aren't moving. The black flies have probably gone for the year. I have not seen any deer flies while putting out controls, but they could conceivably arrive by this weekend. I have only picked up one tick in eight trips up here this year, but they are always a possibility. There is probably some poison ivy in the woods here, but I haven't noticed any (I'm only mildly reactive, so not quite so conscious of it as some people).