Welcome to the 10th Annual Chimera Trail Race. Please read this document completely prior to arriving at race registration as it includes information that is critical to a safe and successful race. I also urge you to make a copy of this letter and share it with crews, pacers, and/or visiting friends.

50 Miles of the Chimera course was impacted by the Holy Fire. All of the trails north of Blue Jay Campground are closed to the public for the next year. The Forest Service is allowing the Chimera and the Saddleback races to take place on the San Juan and Chiquita trails. Because we can only run 20 mile loops we added a 20 mile, and a 40 mile race.

**FOREST SERVICE CAN REQUEST COURSE CHANGES AT ANY TIME UP TO RACE START.**

**RACE INFO**
November 17, 2018, Cleveland National Forest
The course this year is the “Candy Store” Lollipop Loop.
START TIME: 6 a.m., No early starts
CUTOFF: 34 hours

**RACE DAY CHECK-IN?**
4:30am-5am Saturday @ Lower Blue Jay Campground. **ALL RUNNERS must check-in Saturday morning prior to race.** Your race bib will be given to you at that time. There will be no late starts after 15 minutes.

Entrants will not be weighed prior to race. If you exhibit signs of dehydration during the race, you may be asked to take a break and will be instructed to re hydrate prior to returning to the course. We will give every runner ample opportunity to recover. If the staff determines you are unfit to continue, we will not tolerate arguing, pleading, begging, cajoling, or threatening the staff or medical team. Their decision is final.

**RACE DAY ARRIVAL: SAFETY FIRST**
The Ortega highway is long and winding with few opportunities to pass slower vehicle. There are NO SERVICES once you leave Capistrano or Lake Elsinore. There are two small stores. Great sandwiches but they close early. There are NO GAS stations and once out of El Cariso very poor cell service. BE SAFE >>>>
DIRECTIONS FROM LAKE ELSINORE TO BLUE JAY?
Blue Jay Campground is located approximately 14 miles west of the junction of Interstate 15 and Route 74 (The Ortega Highway). There are numerous turns during the first five miles. Also, you will pass grocery and convenience stores in Lake Elsinore. If you need anything (including gas) get it here. There will be very few opportunities to purchase anything once you start up the hill. The drive from Lake Elsinore takes about a half hour but you can get stuck behind a truck, tourist, or timid driver who refuses to go faster than 25 and won’t use the turnouts. At mile 11 make a right hand turn onto what is locally known as Long Canyon Rd. Once on Long Canyon, you are only three miles from Blue Jay (see directions in previous description).

DIRECTIONS FROM SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO TO BLUE JAY?
Blue Jay Campground is approximately 25 miles east of the Junction of Interstate 5 in San Juan Capistrano and Route 74 (the Ortega Highway). Note: other than a strip mall in San Juan there will be NO services available anywhere other than in the immediate vicinity of the freeway. At mile 22 make the left hand turn onto what is locally known as Long Canyon Rd. There will be signs (Old Goat Race) and glow-sticks indicating the route. Long Canyon is narrow, winding and very steep. When you arrive at the tee – turn right onto another narrower, winding, and steep asphalt road. The entrance to Blue Jay will be on the left. You do not have to stop at the entrance. Continue through the campground to lower Blue Jay and follow the instructions on the signs, and/or the directions of race staff.

PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY. PARKING IS VERY TIGHT. WHERE DO I PARK?
Upon arrival to entrance of Blue Jay Campground, continue driving into the park following ribbons, signs and Volunteers will be assisting. Do not stop at the entrance (regardless of what the sign says). Once on the road to lower Blue Jay stay on the right side and pull as close to the car in front of you as possible only allowing sufficient room to pull out if you plan to leave before the end of the race. Large gaps are UNACCEPTABLE.

If traffic is backed all the way to the gate you will be required to either pay to park in a campsite, or in one of the other day use parking areas on Long Canyon Road. Under no circumstance will anyone park in a manner that blocks emergency vehicles or in unmarked spaces outside the lower Blue Jay gate.

PARKING IN UNMARKED PLACES outside of the lower Blue Jay gate - YOU WILL BE TICKETED. Follow the directions of the attendants (assume they are armed). If you have crew and/or pacers driving separately, they will be asked to park outside of Blue Jay proper. There are turn outs on Long Canyon Road. Your crew/pacers may have to walk up to a mile into lower Blue Jay. They may need lamps.

All vehicles must display a National Forest Adventure Pass. If you do not have a yearly pass, you will have to purchase two one day passes ($5 each). Passes will be available at registration.

CAMPING?
Camping is available in the park. OGR reserves some spaces in Lower Blue Jay, but staff are given priority, available sites in lower Blue Jay are $20 per night (Old Goat Races special price). All other sites in the park are first come first served. It is wise to arrive early on Friday if you want to camp. Please park in a manner to allow multiple cars per site. The unreserved sites in the park require the payment of a camping fee - see instructions at camp entrance. No RV's in Lower Blue Jay!
DROP BAGS?
TWO drop bag locations for 100K & 100 miles only. Drop bags must be placed in designated areas before start of race.

- UNACCEPTABLE Drop Bags = Suitcases, backpacks, and large duffle bags.
- Use water resistant containers, no larger than 6” x 9” x 16”
- Do not put containers of liquid in your drop bag unless you can guarantee the container will not bust open!
- Drop bags must be clearly marked with the runner’s name and bib number.

1. BLUE JAY (Start/Finish, 20, 41, 61, 82)
2. CANDY STORE - only one bag per runner marked with name & bib number.
Runners are responsible for placing drop bags in the return area.

You will run past your at least once per loop. You may use your car as an aid station. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN YOUR CAR!

At each AID STATION, you will be responsible for placing your drop bag in the RETURN area after leaving the aid station for the last time. Retrieving your drop bags from Blue Jay is your responsibility. Please do not abandon your bag and expect return delivery as an amenity. We reserve the right to open your bag and share any of the goods left behind. No returns.

LOOP 1 HOLY THANKS
Mile 00.00 : Lower Blue Jay / START
Mile 02.40 : Chiquita/San Juan 1
Mile 06.00 : Chiquita Falls 1
Mile 10.30 : Candy Store
Mile 14.6 : Chiquita Falls 2
Mile 18.20 : Chiquita/San Juan 2
Mile 20.60 : Blue Jay

LOOP 2 SHE-GOAT
Mile 20.60 : Lower Blue Jay / START
Mile 23.00 : Chiquita/San Juan 1
Mile 26.60 : Chiquita Falls 1
Mile 30.90 : Candy Store
Mile 35.20 : Chiquita Falls 2
Mile 38.80 : Chiquita/San Juan 2
Mile 41.20 : Blue Jay

LOOP 3 SERPENT’S TAIL
Mile 41.20 : Lower Blue Jay / START
Mile 43.60 : Chiquita/San Juan 1
Mile 47.20 : Chiquita Falls 1
Mile 51.50 : Candy Store
Mile 55.80 : Chiquita Falls 2
Mile 59.40 : Chiquita/San Juan 2
Mile 61.80 : Blue Jay

LOOP 4 LION’S HEAD
Mile 61.80 : Lower Blue Jay / START
Mile 64.20 : Chiquita/San Juan 1
Mile 67.80 : Chiquita Falls 1
Mile 72.10 : Candy Store
Mile 76.40 : Chiquita Falls 2
Mile 80.00 : Chiquita/San Juan 2
Mile 82.40 : Blue Jay

LOOP 5 BREATH OF FIRE
Mile 82.40 : Lower Blue Jay / START
Mile 84.80 : Chiquita/San Juan 1
Mile 88.40 : Chiquita Falls 1
Mile 92.70 : Candy Store
Mile 97.00 : Chiquita Falls 2
Mile 100.6 : Chiquita/San Juan 2
Mile 103.0 : Blue Jay
HOW IS THE COURSE MARKED?
Course is marked with fluorescent ribbon, white flour and directional signs, no more than 3-5 minutes average run time apart. Turns are marked with extra ribbons and flour arrows. Two parallel chalk lines across a trail means DON'T GO THIS WAY! Watch where you are going. Do not rely on the person in front of you. There are opportunities to get off course. Pay attention. There is always a possibility of vandalism during a wilderness run.

LIGHTS?
ALL runners will be starting in the dark. The Chimera takes place on very technical trail. Footing will be irregular for much of the loop due to rocks, roots, and substantial erosion. 100M/100K runners are responsible for carry light again when the sunsets and any 20m/40m runners still on the course at sunset.

TIMING/TRACKING?
Timing is being conducted by Negative Split Running. Runners need to check-in for tracking and accountability. You will receive a bib that has your chip on it. DO NOT FOLD YOUR BIB. Don't assume volunteers saw your bib number. Be sure to tell them. Chip timing via HAM radio may be implemented (terrain allowing).

CREW?
Crew access to runners at the following Aid Stations:
Blue Jay Start/Finish
Candy Store
Crews not allowed on the course at any other locations other than the Aid Stations listed above.

PACERS?
100m/100K runners can have ONE pacer on the course from mile 40, Lower Blue Jay. Pacers must sign race waiver to participate. Failure to sign the waiver may result in the runner being disqualified. Pacers to stay with their runner at all times, including if their runner drops. Solo pacers not on an emergency run will not be tolerated. NO BANDIT RUNNER WILL BE TOLERATED.

NOISE?
Please avoid loud noise makers - including your mouth. We are guests of the forest.

LEAVE NO TRACE
We are fortunate to run in a beautiful National Forest. Do not litter. What goes in the forest with you must come out of the forest with you. Use the Aid Stations to dispose of your trash if you can’t carry that gel packet to the finish line. If “nature” calls, please step off the trail to a safe location. Check for poison oak! Leaves of three, let them be.

PLACE TO SHOWER? Nope.
**POST RACE FOOD?**

Hot food will be served to the competitors and volunteers at Blue Jay Campground Start/Finish line. Burgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, etc and drinks. Spectators, family, and friends that wish to join in the grub are expected to make a modest donation per item.

**VOLUNTEERS** are here to help you. Arguing with an aid station captain’s authority/decision, any verbal abuse, any inappropriate conduct or poor sportsmanship will be grounds for immediate disqualification. Nobody would be competing in these races were it not for the support of the volunteers. Appreciate them - tell them calmly and clearly what you need and they will attempt to comply with your wants. Abuse them at your own peril - you do not want to piss off the Chimera! Other than EMTs and MDs, volunteers are strictly prohibited from dispensing medication. First Aid Kits are available for your personal access. Save loud complaints for me.

**AWARDS?**

Buckles for 100 Milers, plaques for 100K, Medals for all. In fairness, due to the cancelation of the original Chimera causing many registered participants having to schedule their race, we will *not* be honoring [GRAND SLAM](#) participants this year. We appreciate all that have participated in the Grand Slam challenge.

**WEATHER?**

IT WILL BE COLD AT NIGHT - Hypothermia can bring you to a screeching halt - dress accordingly. Tell your crews too!

**FUN!**

Having FUN is mandatory. If this is your first 100 you will be changed. Have a great day and thank you for choosing to challenge "The Beast" - she’s hungry!
UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ONLINE?
Go to OLD GOAT RACES’ facebook page (LIKE) and join the CHIMERA 100 100 Group & Event. https://www.facebook.com/oldgoatraces/

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Steve Harvey
Race Director

LT aka Lambert Timmermans
Timing Director

Kista Cook
Social Media Graphics & Marketing, Web Design

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