

2015 COW Regatta Report

Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park on Lake Washington in Renton, WA

By Bob Wells

We schedule the COW for late April to early May for more consistent wind and to avoid weed. The plan has generally worked very well, although this year we had more light wind than usual. Still we ended Saturday pressed hard in top A-rig in serious waves, and enjoyed solid Saturday afternoon wind. Sailing in light air is a discipline too despite some naysayers, fortunately one that I enjoy. And the sun came out for much of our sailing with almost no rain, a much more pleasant situation than forecasted earlier in the week.

Californian Gary Boell sailed away with this one for a relatively low stress ranking regatta win, and he also maintained our tradition where nobody from Washington State wins our biggest Seattle MYC regatta. Gary was sailing in his first regatta with his new dark blue MOJO, and he was often noticeably higher and faster – fast right out of the box in other words. His big scimitar shaped rudder and the slick custom collar protecting his deck mounted drum caught my eye on this well prepared boat. Jerry Brower and Kelly Martin in particular took turns challenging Boells, but he held them off for a proper Worlds tune-up with a range of conditions. Our other Worlds skipper, Bruce Andersen, received needed race hardening as part of his Worlds prep, but he could only race the first day before he had to head home to Idaho. Jerry Brower finished second over Kelley Martin in third, but this wasn't determined until the last race. Likewise Joe Damico's fourth place over Bob Wells in fifth was in some doubt until after the last race.

I noticed all the local Seattle MYC boats are now of the modern skinny variety popularized by the Britpop, except David Jensen's Croatian PIKANTO. David is our newest regular from late last year, and he has a KantunSMX on order and coming soon. There are a few wider hulls sailing locally, but our evolution is close to complete. This happened faster than I thought it would, and as a group we are incrementally more competitive in our fifth year as an IOM fleet. We have so many skinny hulls that for my second regatta in a row I sailed a different borrowed spare BRITPOP, thank you Joe Damico and Steve Young for your generosity.

At COW regattas we combine the measuring process with a Friday afternoon gathering and evening dinner party at the home of Bob and Jackie Wells. Measuring Friday saves more time for sailing, and it is an excuse to socialize. Before dinner Bruce Andersen, our only Class Secretary candidate on the ballot, discussed his goals if elected and listened to concerns, but then I cut that short for our Skipper's Meeting and dinner. The party was another success as was our Saturday no host dinner at the nearby Red Robin Restaurant in Renton. We have the socialize part down.

For the second year in a row The COW is a USA ranking club regatta, drawing skippers from four states. This is easily our smallest COW yet in entry numbers, and it allowed single heat racing for the first time. A few local regulars had other commitments. I think Foster City Worlds in two weeks took precedence for a number of distance travelers. My guess is we had no Canadian entries for the first time because we happened to coincide with the unique Nanaimo RC Ocean Race, a favorite of the Herbert brothers. But we did have our Canadian, Barry Fox, who did a great job serving as our PRO. I always enjoy visiting with Barry, who is our IOM ICA Secretary.

Our brief awards ceremony had five very special prizes this year, excellent hand made lanyards reading "IOM USA" donated by Bruce Andersen. I emphasize excellent in describing them, thank you Bruce. We look forward to hosting the COW next year, and as they say on my Son's favorite rerun, "Same bat time. Same bat channēl (...substitute "schedule" for our purposes)". Yes, we have a local regatta this coming weekend too.

COW Regatta Final results after 26 Races with four throw outs:

Summary of the COW Regatta – a USA Club Annual Ranking event:

Class: IOM Date: April 24-26, 2015

Location: Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park on Lake Washington in Renton, WA

Host Club: Seattle Model Yacht Club

Number of Entries: 17

Winds: 1 – 14 knots (mostly lighter wind)

Races Completed: 26

Scoring System: HMS 2014, version2.0.

Race Committee & Assistants: Organizer - Bob Wells; Registration – J. Warren Brower; PRO & Scorekeeper – Barry Fox, Rescue Boat – Jerry Brower and Ron Hornung; Dinner Hosts – Bob & Jackie Wells; Trophies – Bruce Andersen.

2015 COW Cup IOM Regatta - Gene Coulon Park, Renton, WA - April 24-26th.

Pls	Skipper	Sail	City	Hull	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Gary Boell	71	Richmond, CA	Mojo	47.0	3.0	3.0	6.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	3.0	1.0
2	Jerry Brower	42	Lake Stevens, WA	Fraktal	66.0	7.0	12.0	5.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	3.0	1.0	8.0
3	Kelly Martin	77	Bellingham, WA	V8	70.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	9.0	2.0	10.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	5.0	4.0
4	Joe D'amico	86	Sequim, WA	BritPop!	115.0	13.0	7.0	3.0	4.0	9.0	7.0	6.0	8.0	13.0	2.0	2.0
5	Bob Wells	26	Mercer Island, WA	BritPop!	118.0	15.0	6.0	11.0	17.0	13.0	3.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	11.0	16.0
6	Larry Stiles	64	Sedro Woolley, WA	Cheinz	127.0	4.0	5.0	9.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	4.0	6.0	5.0	4.0	11.0
7	Scott McConnel	21	Seattle, WA	Kantun S	143.0	11.0	15.0	12.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	11.0	4.0	8.0	7.0	7.0
8	Kurt Wells	7	Seattle, WA	BritPop!	160.0	8.0	8.0	4.0	15.0	5.0	5.0	9.0	7.0	9.0	12.0	10.0
9	Steve Young	73	Tacoma, WA	Cheinz	167.0	12.0	2.0	8.0	5.0	8.0	15.0	7.0	10.0	12.0	10.0	6.0
10	Morgan Dewees	98	Portland, OR	Lintel MMX	177.0	2.0	10.0	7.0	13.0	4.0	13.0	10.0	12.0	14.0	6.0	5.0
11	Bruce Anderson	16	Boise, ID	BritPop!	208.0	5.0	4.0	2.0	11.0	10.0	6.0	14.0	11.0	7.0	8.0	3.0
12	David Jensen	68	Bellevue, WA	Pikanto	221.0	6.0	14.0	14.0	8.0	14.0	11.0	13.0	14.0	11.0	9.0	9.0
13	Ron Blackledge	217	Portland, OR	BritPop!	228.0	10.0	9.0	13.0	2.0	11.0	12.0	8.0	13.0	6.0	16.0	13.0
14	Daryl Ruff	67	Fife, WA	Kantun SMX	233.0	9.0	11.0	10.0	12.0	12.0	9.0	12.0	9.0	10.0	15.0	12.0
15	Ron Hornung	777	Seattle, WA	21 Grams	307.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	14.0	15.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	14.0	15.0
16	Craig Rantala	12	Sequim, WA	SKA	348.0	16.0	13.0	16.0	10.0	17.0	16.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	13.0	14.0
17	Scott Thomas	17	Edgewood, WA	Mojo	372.0	14.0	16.0	15.0	16.0	16.0	14.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	17.0	18.0

Pls	Skipper	Sail	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Score
1	Gary Boell	71	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	7.0	6.0	12.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	47.0
2	Jerry Brower	42	5.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	8.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	9.0	5.0	1.0	4.0	6.0	2.0	1.0	66.0
3	Kelly Martin	77	2.0	7.0	7.0	12.0	2.0	10.0	5.0	5.0	2.0	6.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	5.0	4.0	70.0
4	Joe D'amico	86	7.0	6.0	8.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	10.0	8.0	1.0	9.0	3.0	3.0	5.0	3.0	9.0	115.0
5	Bob Wells	26	3.0	9.0	4.0	2.0	4.0	17.0	4.0	1.0	7.0	1.0	8.0	8.0	3.0	6.0	2.0	118.0
6	Larry Stiles	64	6.0	2.0	3.0	14.0	11.0	1.0	7.0	13.0	8.0	2.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	11.0	10.0	127.0
7	Scott McConnel	21	12.0	5.0	9.0	6.0	6.0	3.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	8.0	11.0	7.0	13.0	4.0	7.0	143.0
8	Kurt Wells	7	8.0	8.0	13.0	5.0	12.0	4.0	9.0	4.0	10.0	7.0	4.0	13.0	9.0	9.0	6.0	160.0
9	Steve Young	73	9.0	11.0	10.0	8.0	7.0	11.0	1.0	7.0	12.0	3.0	13.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	8.0	167.0
10	Morgan Dewees	98	10.0	10.0	6.0	10.0	1.0	8.0	11.0	9.0	5.0	12.0	10.0	10.0	11.0	8.0	13.0	177.0
11	Bruce Anderson	16	4.0	4.0	5.0	9.0	9.0	6.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	208.0
12	David Jensen	68	13.0	12.0	12.0	7.0	17.0	17.0	8.0	11.0	6.0	10.0	6.0	12.0	10.0	14.0	5.0	221.0
13	Ron Blackledge	217	11.0	14.0	14.0	11.0	14.0	12.0	13.0	2.0	14.0	11.0	7.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	228.0
14	Daryl Ruff	67	14.0	13.0	15.0	15.0	10.0	9.0	12.0	10.0	13.0	14.0	12.0	9.0	7.0	7.0	11.0	233.0
15	Ron Hornung	777	15.0	15.0	11.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	14.0	14.0	11.0	13.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	12.0	12.0	307.0
16	Craig Rantala	12	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	17.0	17.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	348.0
17	Scott Thomas	17	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	372.0

Regatta Management: Barry Fox. Hosted by Seattle Model Yacht Club