



More Wood: Since the COW Martin Herbert has refined his *Dart 3* woody to replace the aluminum booms with wood. “More wood makes it faster”, is Martin’s quote (I think, but maybe I got it wrong)? Look closely and *Dart 3* is showing some hard-earned starboard-side patina from racing (was that you on port, Damico?), making it even more aesthetic to my eye if that is even possible. Martin Herbert image.

Seattle MYC Regatta #3 Report – IOM Class (May 27, 2017 at Coulon Park)

Bob Wells Reporting & Jerry Brower Scoring:

Why can’t all out sailing days be like this bluebird day with wind and nice sunny weather? The wind was from the North so we had our chop and waves, and importantly we had enough wind to drive through the chop. I’ll call it a mid-A wind as there was no threat of our bows burying downwind. For much of the day the wind switched from the north to the NW, which resulted in mostly long port tacks to weather and the opposite downwind. At least there was no reaching a mark on a single tack. The weather mark was often congested and a challenge in the chop. With our long courses, we had plenty of opportunity to work on speed and pointing in chop. I have to say that our fleet performed well overall in this condition, as the fleet was bunched. That was not the case in the earlier years of our club. I think partially it is because our boats are better, and of course experience helps.

If you have been following our results recently, I think you can guess who was our top guy (again)... Our local sleep deprived WC sailor, USA 42 Jerry Brower, started well and somehow mostly maintained his focus through the regatta for another good outing. It was great to hear some of his WC stories. This was Jerry’s fourth WC, and he highly recommends the experience.

We welcomed a new skipper – Lucas Hurt from Port Townsend. Lucas just purchased a used Britpop from Joe Damico (Pepe’s Hull #2!) and the night before got her rigged with some mast bits from Julian Lee. Larry Stiles assisted on tuning his BP before the 1st race. Lucas has some work to do on his kit, but he shows he has skill racing sailboats already. Later I learned that last summer Lucas participated in R2AK and finished a very respectable 8th on the Port Townsend team called, Turn Point Design. This serious effort included building a custom designed 24’ carbon cat for the race, where they finished a very respectable 8th overall by racing 24 x 7 for 5 days! The top guys all race non-stop of course despite what Mother Nature throws at them.

We are talking 725 miles of adventure sailing/rowing with no motor or support in tricky waters from Port Townsend to Ketchikan. Lucas is crazy enough to want to do this again, but not this year... I'll be following this year's race [here](#).

Thank you to Morina Dustan for calling the line and keeping scores. Most of us gathered at the El Toreros for a beverage and a late lunch after the regatta. This was a great start to my Memorial Day weekend, and the America's Cup starts today too – my recording was programed before leaving for our regatta!

2017 Seattle Cup #3 Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, Renton WA. May 27th.

pls	Skipper	Sail	Club/City	Hull	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Kelly Martin	77	Bellingham	V10	11.0	7.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
2	Jerry Brower	42	Lk Stevens	V10	14.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	7.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	2.0	3.0
3	Larry Stiles	64	Sedro Woolley	britPOP!	32.0	2.0	6.0	6.0	2.0	8.0	5.0	11.0	2.0	5.0	4.0
4	Bob Wells	186	Mercer Is	britPOP!	33.0	13.0	9.0	5.0	3.0	7.0	2.0	3.0	10.0	3.0	1.0
5	Scott McConnell	21	Lynnwood	Kantun S	50.0	3.0	7.0	12.0	6.0	4.0	4.0	12.0	8.0	11.0	7.0
6	Mike Hansow	53	Renton	V10	51.0	5.0	3.0	4.0	13.0	12.0	8.0	7.0	5.0	8.0	11.0
7	Joe D'Amico	86	Sequim	V10	54.0	10.0	5.0	3.0	12.0	11.0	6.0	6.0	9.0	4.0	14.0
8	Steve Young	73	Tacoma	Lintel	55.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	9.0	5.0	12.0	9.0	3.0	7.0	8.0
9	Lucas Hurt	10	Port Townsend	britPOP!	61.0	12.0	13.0	11.0	4.0	2.0	11.0	4.0	11.0	14.0	6.0
10	Daryl Ruff	67	Fife	SMX	63.0	11.0	11.0	13.0	8.0	9.0	7.0	10.0	7.0	6.0	5.0
11	Bob Dustan	32	Allyn	V9	64.0	4.0	4.0	8.0	11.0	10.0	10.0	5.0	12.0	14.0	14.0
12	Dennis Pittis	57	Clinton	Malteser	66.0	9.0	10.0	9.0	10.0	3.0	13.0	13.0	6.0	9.0	10.0
13	David Jensen	168	Bellevue	Race Ready II	68.0	8.0	12.0	7.0	5.0	14.0	9.0	8.0	13.0	10.0	9.0

Hosted by Seattle Model Yacht Club. Line Judge Morina Dustan and others.

[Excel](#)



Always looking to improve our sailing, Joe Damico created this elegant Race Officer station custom fit for our Coulon Park railings. Just grab it by the handles and drop in place aligned with start line. The writing desk is complete with score sheets, pencils and sharpeners, and they are all tucked away under the hinged lid. If it is raining you can prop the lid partially up and record the scores under the lid. It houses a boom box and two (!) powered all-weather speakers directed each side, so everybody in the park (and the control area) can hear our starts. It is an all-weather unit full of drain holes too. No more will we have to not score races because the 1st finishers can't find the clip board. Nice work, Joe, another problem solved.

Bonus" 2017 IOM World Championship Coverage



Our sun-tanned USA skippers at the WC from left: Baron Bremer, Stephan Cohen, Michel Roure, Jerry Brower, Craig Mackey, Mark Golison, Gary Boell, and John Ebey.

2017 IOM World Championship in Pierrelatte, France

Congratulations to France and Organizer Pierre Gonnet for an excellent Worlds that for the first time featured live video coverage of most all the races with two professional announcers and four cameras. Mama Mia that was addictive. The event website and replays of this video coverage is [here](#).

Alternatively go to Jerry Brower's website [here](#) for his links to the WC coverage (look for his 5/22 and 5/25 posts). In particular, read his links of candid personal diaries of the event from three competitors: Philip Pryde (NZL), Soren Andressan (DEN), and Mark Golison (USA). The best sailing images I have found are from the UK's Sue Brown of CatSails [here](#).

Boats & Sails Selected for WC 2017:

By Bob Wells

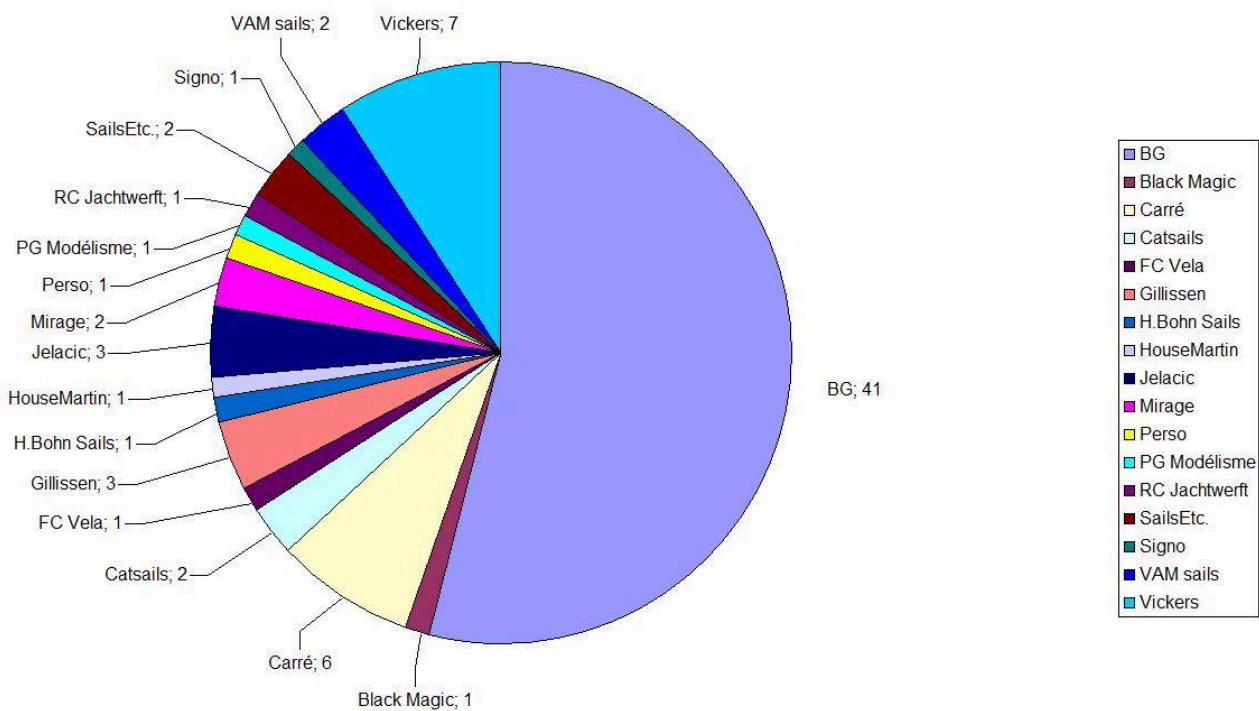
What hull designs did the sailors chose for this year's Worlds? A decade ago the Pikanto/Topiko was the preferred hull design, and after a nice run at the top end it remains a good club boat option. Now skippers overwhelming choose the Britpop (BP), with a whopping 43% of the WC 2017 entries. For comparison 38% of the entries were the Pikanto/Topiko in 2011, the year the BP began its dominate run with an unprecedented sweep of the IOM podium. I counted 22 different hull designs sailing in the 2017 WC, which included one venerable Pikanto. The top 10 hulls beginning with 1st place: Kantun 2, Sedici, BP, Sedici, BP, V10, BP, BP, Titan, BP. The Titan design is not known to me.

What hulls stood out for performance at this year's WC? While I wasn't there, Olivier Cohen (FRA 100, who finished 10th) summarized it accurately I think, "Zvonko had a fantastic week, he made incredible come backs to achieve a very impressive consistency in such patchy/shifty winds. Congratulations Zvonko, you

deserve that new title! Regarding boats, I can say that no one had a speed advantage in those conditions, results were about good start, good mark rounding's, and following shifts".

Like Brad Gibson in 2015, Zvonko stands out for winning with his own hull, sails, and rigs. They support themselves providing radio sailing products, and they are focused on their products winning radio sailing championships at the highest level. You have to admire the effort and ingenuity. I think they have an edge over those not in the business, in the sense they know their products so thoroughly. And they already had put in the time in their youth to be exceptional sailors early, then they have built on that. Read more about BG and his BP in my 2012 interview with him [here](#). Read more about Zvonko and his Kantun 2 in my 2016 interview with him [here](#).

2017 WC sailmaker selections are similar to the hull choice numbers with 22 different sailmakers from 10 countries. Below is an interesting graph of the sailmakers chosen for this year's WC, with many excellent sailmakers on the pie chart. No surprise that BG Sails & Design are the most popular, as 54% of the boats used his sails. BG has been our most popular sailmaker for the top sailors for many years now, a testament to him because IOM skippers are picky about their gear. Vickers and Carré combined make up 17% of the sails provided and otherwise there were no other especially popular sailmakers at this event. I believe Olivier's conclusion on hull performance above applies equally to sails. For the record, the boats on podium used three different sailmakers.



I'd like to give credit for this nice pie chart, which I found on Facebook right after the regatta. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to track it down since, so I can't give you your credit. Sorry.

We're always interested in the new boats, so below are a few images with comments I've gleaned from Jerry Brower:



Usually the Netherland's Huub Gillissen sails his own designs (or collaborations with Craig Smith) that he meticulously builds. This time he sailed the Sedici (Italian for "16") designed by the Italian Ceccarelli [here](#), which is his 16th IOM design. Huub reportedly finished the boat with his "touches". One of them is this slot on the foredeck for the jib tie-down that receives a string with a magnetic ball on the end. The magnets set the position, and you can see he has three positions. This is very fast to install/detach and very clean and minimalist – another gold star for Huub. Jerry Brower image.



The Sedici at the WC in profile with the distinctive foils and bulb. Last summer she finished a very competitive 5th at the EU (Beltri sailing). This year she won the Italian Nats (Puthod sailing) and at Worlds finished #2 (Beltri) and #4 (Puthod), so this design is performing very well and receiving well-earned recognition. The Spaniard Pepe Vinaixa in Valencia is said to be the builder, but I found nothing on the web on that. Jerry Brower image.



I know nothing of this proto sailed by France's Romain Dubreuil to 9th place. That is one distinctive turned-up bow more commonly seen in the M class. Jerry Brower image.



Here is Zvonko Jelacic sailing his new Kantun 2 to a well-earned 2017 WC Championship, his second WC win. It was in doubt until the last race thanks to Beltri and Walsh keeping the pressure on. Everything on this excellent boat you can purchase from Jelacic Sailing, and you have the option of purchasing it completely assembled. Delivery is stated at 10 months. The trim guide is on labels on the deck. Jerry Brower image.