



Driving to windward in top 2-rig is one of the many reasons we travel to sail at Hood River. Carter Jones image.

2017 Hood River Carnage - IOM (July 21-23 at Hood River Marina)

Bob Wells reporting,

In last year's Carnage regatta report, we worried it would be our last regatta at this great radio sailing venue. The unnoticed shoreline bushes when we started sailing here had grown to where we couldn't see our boats near shore and many collisions were the result. This also restricted our visible sailing area to where tactically the course became one dimensional. It was unacceptable sailing for a top regatta. What we didn't realize was the goodwill we had developed at the Port. Marina Manager Laurie Borton had no issues trimming the bushes when I explained our problem (with images of the old days), and we committed to return right then. Thanks to the Port's support our 2017 regatta was one of our best yet, and our elevated visibility is excellent again. Don't worry about the bushes, they just got a haircut and are thriving.

The wind behaved and came from the prevailing westerly direction both days. Saturday was good light air sailing in the middle of our big rig all day. Early it played to play the shore lifts, and later you went south after the start or the gates for the persistent lefty. Sunday was solid 2-rig day all day, and much of it in the top end with bows diving downwind. Tacking smoothly in gusts is a challenge, and it played to go for the big lefty early to limit tacking. Everybody suffered from a milfoil-like weed on Saturday, which we have not experienced in all our previous events here. I barely noticed it in the stronger Sunday wind.

Winner Mark Golison had to come from behind, and he certainly did with his last five races scoring four firsts and one DNF (apparently a bad "fresh" battery). Mark didn't even have this regatta on his busy schedule, but when other plans fell through this was a nice alternate for Jenn and Mark. John Ebey has won this regatta a number of times, and finished just 5 points back after 21 races. Gary Boell again was not far behind to complete the podium, with not quite the consistency of the top guys but he separated himself from the rest of the fleet.

Overall this is easily the most competitive group of IOM skippers from top to bottom that we've seen at Hood River. Everybody had a fast boat and had their moments. How you managed the race and avoided issues determined your success. Our newest old guy skipper, John Skinner, sailed consistently to achieve a well-earned 4th. John is new to radio sailing but not buoy racing, and he has that elusive ability to avoid having really bad races. Steve Landeau in 5th is returning to the class after a break from IOMs, and he survived some new-used boat gremlins for a nice finish.

IOM skippers are willing to travel for big regattas, and this time we had two from the East coast. Winner of our farthest traveled award is Steve Landeau over Michel Roure in a close match. Both traveled over 2,800 miles with Steve about 50 miles further. We had eight entries from California, and for the first time we had more Cali boys than Washington guys. No surprise the Cali boys dominated the top places, as they tend to do in the USA.

This event is not only about sailing. We had 20 entries, but with our entourage we had 30 for our Saturday evening dinner at Divots, still my favorite restaurant after a hot dusty day sailing. Hood River is such a great place to visit, and our wives that were sight-seeing, hiking, and/or shopping all want to come back. Seattle MYC did a great job organizing a distant regatta, and Barry Fox and Larry Stiles did well as PRO. Thank you to the many volunteers listed below. We'll be back next year for our 7th annual Carnage!

Position	Skipper	Sail #	Club/City	Hull	Score
1	Mark Golison	55	Long Beach, CA	V9	54.0
2	John Ebey	193	San Rafael, CA	BritPop!	59.0
3	Gary Boell	71	Richmond, CA	BritPop!	70.0
4	John Skinner	46	Pinole, CA	BritPop!	112.0
5	Steve Landeau	12	Pooler, GA	BritPop!	122.0
6	Chris Sullivan	62	Albany, CA	BritPop!	143.0
7	Bob Wells	7	Mercer Island, WA	Kantun S	145.0
8	Bruce Andersen	16	Boise, ID	BritPop!	150.0
9	Bill Wright	17	Alameda, CA	BritPop!	152.0
10	Morgan Dewees	98	Portland, OR	Lintel	158.0
11	Jerry Brower	42	Lake Stevens, WA	BritPop!	175.9
12	Barry Donaher	47	Scottsdale, AZ	V9	179.0
13	Michel Roure	18	Parsippany, NJ	BritPop!	194.0
14	Steve Toschi	94	Grover Beach, CA	MB6	199.1
15	Darrell Peck	14	Gresham, OR	BritPop!	203.0
16	Jim Wondolleck	49	San Rafael, CA	BritPop!	217.0
17	Kurt Wells	37	Seattle, WA	BritPop!	228.0
18	David Jensen	68	Bellevue, WA	V9	231.0
19	Joe D'Amico	86	Sequim, WA	V10	273.0
20	James Pletcher	72	Mill Valley, CA	V10	336.0

Full Results: <http://www.ibextrax.com/RC2017/Results/0722HR.pdf>

Images: <https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=AnZgep%5Fr0sUWnp8&id=EC0A73D8BB538D0%2122619&cid=0EC0A73D8BB538D0>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRZjbZgz5i0>

Summary of the 2017 Hood River Carnage – Club Ranking

Class: IOM

Date: July 21-23, 2016 (2 days racing)

Location: Hood River Marina at Hood River, OR

Host Club: Seattle MYC

Entries: 20

Winds: 5 – 24 knots plus gusts.

Races Completed: 21

Scoring System: 2016 - v3 HMS

Regatta Committee & Valuable Assistants: Jerry Brower – Chairman, Registrar, Finances & Lunches; Bob Wells – 2nd Chairman; Barry Fox – PRO & Scorekeeper; Larry Stiles – Measuring & Race Management; Bob Dustan – Rescue Boat Driver; Joe Damico – provided buoys and boat; Ron Blackledge – Safety cones; Liz Fox and Carter Jones – Official Photographers.



Close-up action in 2-rig at the weather mark, which was often crowded like the start line. In addition to the congestion, what makes this mark so difficult is the wind gets especially shifty here due to nearby masts and trees. David Jensen (USA 68) appears to be pinching to make the mark, and it is likely a big header that is the cause. Carter Jones image.



More weather mark action showing more of the venue. The 10' elevated spit makes viewing distant marks doable. Rescue boat operator Bob Dustan is watching the action and at the ready. Next year Bob sails, so we need a volunteer. Liz Fox image.



A view of the elevated spit that is our Control Area and we conveniently park to the left. We provide the traffic dividers to protect the skippers from walking into the big rocks, and you can see the trimmed bushes just below the bank. Here winner Mark Golison is closest to the camera, followed by John Ebey and John Skinner (both blue shirts), and Gary Boell is the tall skinny one in red hat. Liz Fox image.



All the entries were production boats, except for Steve Toschi's "Micro Brew 6", his beautiful 6th custom designed and built effort that performs very well. Like most of us, Steve's boat is more capable than the skipper – a cold reality. Liz Fox image.