



In addition to our regatta, it was Seattle Yacht Club's Opening Day of boating season with crew races. Opening Day Parade starts at noon the 1st Saturday in May at Montlake Bridge. SYC Opening Day is the nation's largest regional celebration of the opening of boating season (if we can believe the propaganda). Photo by my friend, Nancy Hutnik, who never misses Opening Day.

Gig Harbor MYC Regatta #3 – IOM Class (May 5, 2018 at Surprise Lake in Milton, WA)

Bob Wells Reporting & Daryl Ruff Scoring:

While most of the region celebrated Seattle Yacht Club's Opening Day of boating season, we had a nice turnout of “regulars” radio sailing per schedule. We were rewarded with summer-like sunny weather and nice Surprise Lake winds that settled early from the NW direction. This wind was less random than normal, and still there were plenty of little small pond shifts and lulls. Couple that with a course that was “reacky” because of the westerly component, and success was all about a good start and the choices on the first windward leg. After that there were few passing opportunities, but lots of time to work on close and broad reaching skills. This skill we usually only employ at off-set marks on the preferred windward-leeward courses, and one that Jerry Brower and Joe Damico are both good at.

Call it another enjoyable sail and then we had a nice turnout at Puerto Vallarta Restaurant for the post-race gathering too, on Cinco de mayo no less. Thank you to big Mike Hansow and Daryl Ruff, who took care of the buoy setup and put them away.

GHMYC 3 (Standard Scoring)																				
Sail	Sailor	Rank	Tot	R 1	R 2	R 3	R 4	R 5	R 6	R 7	R 8	R 9	R 10	R 11	R 12	R 13	R 14	R 15	R 16	R 17
42	Jerry Brower	1	25	7	1	3	1	3	4	1	3	1	2	1	2	4	1	1	1	4
86	Joe D'Amico	2	34	1	5	1	5	2	7	7	1	2	4	3	1	1	5	2	5	1
12	Bob Wells	3	45	6	2	5	2	5	3	4	2	5	9	2	5	3	6	3	2	2
73	Steve Young	4	46	3	4	6	7	1	2	2	4	4	7	4	3	2	2	6	4	5
67	Daryl Ruff	5	62	4	6	4	4	4	5	3	5	6	6	5	4	5	4	7	3	6
68	David Jensen	6	78	5	3	8	3	6	6	9	9	3	1	9	9	9	8	5	9	3
53	Mike Hansow	7	80	8	7	2	6	8	1	5	6	8	5	7	6	6	7	8	7	7
69	Bill Wilson	8	80	2	8	7	8	7	8	6	7	7	3	6	7	7	3	4	6	8

I set a personal record of sailing at each of our three PacNW radio sailing venues this past week, something I've not done before. This got me reflecting on the variety of venues that we enjoy, as each is a very different test of sailing skill:

My full radio sailing week started with the weekend COW Regatta at Coulon Park, and my regatta report is here: <http://www.ibextrax.com>. Coulon is an exceptional park on Lake Washington and the Seattle MYC home for IOMs. We sail on big deep open freshwater. Sometimes this is a large “speed” course, but there is plenty of wind shifts, chop, and powerboat waves to keep things interesting. We sail from a concrete walkway 300’ long with a convenient launch area, parking, restrooms, etc. Our winds changed here recently with the construction of the 12-story Hyatt Lake Washington, and our once lovely steady southerlies parallel to the walkway are more often from the SW now. This makes the outer marks farther away and our course more “reaching” as the wind finds its way around that big building complex, and this wind is much shiftier too. Our northwesterly still brings waves from lots of fetch and this is my preferred wind direction for this venue now.

Wednesday I played hooky from work to take our guest, Michel Roure, to sail at Bowman Bay on Fidalgo Island in timeless Deception Pass State Park. Bowman is a large round west-facing bay that is just north of Deception Pass Bridge on SR 20. This is the home of Deception Pass MYC and for many this is their favorite radio sailing venue because of the elevated visibility on the 400’ long pier and the steady summer westerlies that parallel the pier. The courses are long yet with great visibility at all marks. They race year-round here on Wednesdays and Sundays, and they are in the Olympic Peninsula rain shadow that is surprisingly effective. The views when you arrive justify the trip.

Michel and I enjoyed great summer-like weather and sailing conditions, and Larry’s regatta report is below. I expected the quality sailing, stunning views, and timeless CCC built infrastructure; and it was a pleasure to show Michel the camp structures at Bowman before sailing. The steady wind with elevated visibility allows close tactical sailing that is rare in radio sailing. This was the first time that I sailed north of the pier, and my old eyes appreciated the lack of glare with the sun from backside, a rare pleasure. Michel called it, “IOM at its most magical stage”! I agree.

Gig Harbor MYC’s home is Surprise Lake in Milton at the Surprise Lake Village apartments with continuous club sailing here since the 1980s. This is small pond sailing that will challenge your boat handling to keep the boat moving as you deal with the fluky wind. The venue is no longer suitable for larger regattas because the new dock is small and it does not project as far from shore, but it maintains a loyal regular following. I always enjoy my time here. The irritating thing is that it feels at times like the wind shifts pick the winners, but at the end of the day it is always the same folks on top. My conclusion is that there is an elusive knack to sailing well here. If you don’t have it then maybe you need to sail here more often to develop this skill.



The view west from Bowman Bay in 2014 from the 400’ elevated pier. Michel called it, “IOM at its most magical stage”! The Pacific Ocean is 100 miles to the west if you could see through the mist and the Earth’s curvature. Bob Wells photo.

Deception Pass MYC Wednesday Sailing – IOM Class (May 2, 2018 at Bowman Bay)

By Larry Stiles

Our guest sailor Michel Roure had just one word to describe the conditions at Bowman Bay on Wednesday. MAGIC!

A steady westerly of four to eight MPH put the course close and parallel to the pier. The windward mark was out there a bit but was still very manageable. A good crowd bent on having a good time with lots of sunshine and great racing. What a blast. Even Jerry was happy.

DPMYC Wednesday IOM Sailing

Wind W 4-8 MPH

5/2/2018

Hosted by

Deception Pass Model Yacht Club

Position	Skipper	Sail #	Club/City	Hull	MYA No.	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Bob Wells	12	Mercer Island, WA	Kanton 2		24.0	3.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	6.0
2	Jerry Brower	42	Lake Stevens, WA	V9		27.0	7.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	1.0	2.0	4.0	1.0	3.0
3	Joe D'Amico	86	Sequim, WA	V10		30.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	1.0	6.0	4.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	4.0	1.0	5.0	2.0
4	Michel Rouse	142	Parsipanny, NJ	Pikanto		38.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	7.0	4.0	5.0	8.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	7.0	2.0	4.0
5	Larry Stiles	64	Sedro Woolley, WA	BritPop!		42.0	6.0	9.0	3.0	2.0	7.0	3.0	4.0	6.0	3.0	5.0	3.0	6.0	1.0
6	Mike Doherty	33	Anacortes, WA	BritPop!		51.0	2.0	7.0	4.0	5.0	2.0	6.0	6.0	5.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	5.0
7	Vic Childs	98	Anacortes, WA	Widget		67.0	4.0	6.0	7.0	6.0	3.0	8.0	9.0	8.0	6.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	8.0
8	Bill Matheson	10	Anacortes, WA	V7		81.0	8.0	5.0	8.0	8.0	9.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0	10.0
9	Jack Pulliam	43	Oak Harbor, WA	V10		92.0	9.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	9.0	7.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	9.0	8.0	7.0



The Bowman Bay camp structures photographed in 2012. When I walked this with Michel Roure before our regatta I was pleased to see that it had been thoughtfully refurbished and the wood is no longer bleached out. Bob Wells photo.

Next Up Locally:

DF95 Regatta #2 on Saturday 5/12 at Surprise Lake.

SMYC Regatta #3 on Saturday 6/16 at Coulon Park – IOM Class