



Colorful Lake Parsippany in early fall invaded by IOM skippers from eight states, including California and Washington state. The racing was close and the action was fun for the competitors as well as spectators. Image by Alexandra Ramos.

2019 IOM Region 2 Championship – Parsippany (10/12-13/19)

Parsippany, NJ

Bob Wells Reporting:

The fourth annual Region 2 IOM Regatta organized by Lake Parsippany MYC grew to a 2-day regatta for the first time this year. In response, 16 skippers traveled from eight states to participate, including 6 of the 8 USA representatives to the 2019 WC in Brazil in November. On Friday they were rewarded with solid B conditions in the late morning and top of A in the afternoon. However, that was practice day, and the weekend regatta turned to light and variable, as it was between competing weather systems. PRO Fred Rocha from San Diego made the best of it to find fair courses in the fluky wind, which limited our racing both days. Of course, the two days after the regatta, winds are stable with good velocities, as we checked before I went touring each morning. Then on Wednesday after the regatta, reports show winds are honkin' between B and C rigs!

I found Lake Parsippany a nice quiet lake for radio sailing, and large enough to create waves with the wind up. It certainly is beautiful in early fall colors. With two beaches to sail from, it sets up nicely in most stable wind directions for racing parallel to shore. Unlike many US venues, it often offers solid B-rig wind strengths. Except in summer, weed is moderate thanks to the property owner's association's aggressive preventative measures, something not all lakes in the area do. LPMYC is a good venue to build a fleet with a supportive community.

LPMYC is a new fledgling IOM fleet in New Jersey. It begins with Parsippany resident Michel Roure, who was a dinghy sailor in his youth, including a serious 470 campaign with his brother. Eventually, a nomadic corporate and family life left no time for sailing. Time passes and nearing retirement, his radio sailing notions were confirmed at the 2015 Foster City IOM Worlds. Michel attended out of curiosity while on business in Silicon Valley and he was taken by the boats, the high level of racing and race management, and the international camaraderie with 76 competitors from 21 countries. While there Michel purchased Brazilian Pedro Stier's Britpop at the end of the regatta, a high quality first boat to begin radio sailing. Initially he sailed solo on his local lake, raced with the Central Park club, and began traveling to the west coast for larger IOM events. Slowly he found others wanting to try sailing with him on his local lake, he won permission and support of the private property owners association for his radio sailing club, and with another member began building a few club boats to build the fleet. He does what it takes to build his fleet, including assembling some rigs to assist new members. Now retired, he continues to travel for fun and IOM radio sailing is a big part of his life. Michel often visits family in France, where he can sail IOMs with his father and brother. With dual citizenship, he does this enough to be ranked in France's IOM Classe, although he represented the USA in the 2017 Pierrelatte WC and will again in the 2019 WC in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Michel provides a blueprint on how to jump full-Monte into IOM radio sailing locally and through traveling, and he gives back as an IOM event organizer. All he did for me at this regatta was provide a room, a boat (Pedro Stier's BP from 2015 WC no less!), a hat, and was our tour guide to the fringes of NYC and Old Morristown for a relaxing couple of days. Likewise, he provided a boat for Peter Huttemeier – facilitator indeed!

Light and variable winds led to most of the courses being shortened to get more races in, in turn leading to more topsy-turvy finishes. PRO Rocha did well to get 15 races in. The cream always rises, so the top guys dominated the results, if not every race. The winner by a narrow 2-point margin was again Brooklyn's Jon Elmaleh, proving his light air prowess to become the winner of 3 of the 4 Parsippany Invitationals. Jon sailed his own *DeBow 5* design, a rare thing when a custom design wins a US regional. In 2nd place Gary Boell

from Richmond, CA lost any opportunity to come from behind when only three races could be held on Sunday, as fluky winds did not allow fair courses. Two bullets in three races is a strong close though. Gary overcame not receiving his rigs from FedEx in time for the regatta, but Michel came through again, when he happened to have a spare practice Britpop rig that Gary borrowed and performed well with. If that's not enough of a traveling challenge, Gary's BP was bumped to a later plane the same day causing more stress and a return to the airport. Always competitive, Mark Golison from Long Beach, secured third with solid finishes on the last day's only races. This allowed him to hold off Danny Thomas, Jerry Brower, and Steve Landeau – all guys traveling to the Brazil WC next month with him. Finishes for all the other skippers were also tightly bunched, with positions in doubt until the end.

Many volunteers make this full-service event successful, and one that discerning skippers want to return to because they recognize a good radio sailing venue with a supportive community. Michel was thrilled when Fred Rocha supported his event by travelling all the way from San Diego to serve as PRO. He is grateful for the LPPOA Management's support over the years and Diana at the Ladies Club for again making excellent lunches. Our new LPMYC club member, Michael Blum, was everywhere for logistic support and operating the rescue boat provided by Sebastian Ostolozza. Steve Landeau jumped in for buoy placement assistance too. Pontoon gondolier Mike Fabricante went over and above by moving and resetting his pontoon dock for launching, made necessary at Johnson Beach because of the lowered water level. LPMYC members Skip Hall, James Bailey, and Allen Malsbury supported the event in various capacities. Alexandra Ramos was always smiling as she provided great images and assisted with the scoring. Also, it was great to finally meet Brian Brozek of Midwest Model Yachting, our event sponsor. Thank you all.

After the event Michel and I took time to discuss what worked and what didn't for the event, and organizing in general. I also learned of Michel's wish for more interclub sailing from members of Central Park MYC, Marbleheaders of Spring Lake, and Lake Parsippany MYC. He noted how my Seattle area IOM clubs did this, and hopes that happens in his area. He doesn't know what form it might eventually take, but it has started with a few IOM skippers from these clubs traveling to sail with each other. Michel appreciated Central Park not scheduling any racing to conflict with his R2 event weekend, and hopes for more of the kind of schedule coordination too. This bodes well for AMYA Region 2 radio sailing.

Summary of the 2019 IOM R2 Championship – Parsippany (USA Ranking 1.1):

Class: International One Metre

Date: October 12-13, 2019

Location: Parsippany, NJ

Host Club: Lake Parsippany Model Yacht Club, AMYA #383

Number of Entries: 16

Winds: 1 – 5 mph

Races Completed: 15

Scoring System: HMS 2016 v3

Race Committee & Assistants: Organizer, Registration: Michel Roure; PRO, Scorekeeper – Fred Rocha; Scoring Assistant, Images – Alexandra Ramos; Measurer – Bob Wells; Logistics, Buoy Boat – Michael Blum; Lunches – Diana at LPPOA Ladies Club; LPMYC Assistants – Skip Hall, James Bailey, Allen Malsbury; Launching Pontoon – Mike Fabricante; Electric Rescue Boat provider – Sebastian Ostolozza

Alexandra Ramos Images: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yj2D-Ko5g-a1d_LWVvyjpfC5mPeygEB5

Mike Fabricante videos: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1uwnK8bc3OdGm5ObUP2LbDwK04ss7Qt39?usp=sharing>

Mike Fabricante images: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11HkBJ5MOizTqDXCkG5UXTToHCZtKYRwl8?usp=sharing>

Results after 15 Races with 3 Throw-outs:

Position	Skipper	Sail #	Club/City	Hull	Score
1	Jon Elmaleh	2	New York	DeBow 5	55.0
2	Gary Boell	11	California	britPOP!	57.0
3	Mark Golison	55	California	SEDICI	62.0
4	Danny Thomas	121	Maryland	britPOP!	77.0
5	Jerry Brower	42	Washington	K2	81.0
6	Steve Landeau	21	Georgia	SEDICI	86.0
7	Martin Gray	83	Florida	Goth	87.0
8	Baron Bremer	81	Florida	Kantwo	97.0
9	Michel Roure	19	New Jersey	britPOP!	99.0
10	Tim Alibert	23	New York	V10	108.0
11	Bob Wells	119	Washington	britPOP!	115.0
12	Brian Brozeck	142	Indiana	Fraktal	121.0
13	Bob Shluger	14	Connecticut	britPOP!	121.0
14	Peter Huttemeier	191	Connecticut	Modified Alternative	127.0
15	Steve Okinow	72	New Jersey	Kantun S	142.0
16	Giovanni Seijo	51	New York	CG1	168.0

Full Race Results: <http://www.ibextrax.com/RC2019/Results/1012R2.pdf>

Per usual, find this and all my regatta reports & newsletters at Jerry Brower's information IOM website: <http://www.ibextrax.com>.



Boys tuning their precision toys. Launching on Johnson Beach in light air at the 4th Annual Invitational IOM Regatta at Parsippany is NYC's Jon Elmaleh (USA 2), Cali's Mark Golison (USA 55), and Georgia's Steve Landeau (USA 21). Image by Alexandra Ramos.



The breeze is in and just after the start the boats are bunched. Steve Landeau (USA 21 - Sedici) and Danny Thomas (USA 121 - Britpop) both have homemade wind vanes, which tells you it was shifty. I'll point out that USA 42 is Jerry Brower's new K2, and during this regatta Jerry passed 1,000 individual radio sailing races in 2019 – a personal best and a remarkable achievement that requires a lot of traveling. Image by local Mike Fabricante.



Reaching downwind in the light with Parsippany's fall color reflections. Danny Thomas is showing the value of his wind vane as only he knows the wind is a little aft of abeam. Well, I probably know it too in the orange boat, because I kept checking other's wind vanes in these conditions –my orange BP sails are eased a bit. Notice the IRL nation designation on the green *Goth*. Dual citizen Martin Gray traveled from Florida for this event, and the week before he was racing in East Bourne, UK – another remarkable IOM traveler fun to hang with. Image by Alexandra Ramos.



All smiles at the closing ceremonies with trophies at Dawes Beach. Beginning on left: Gary Boell in 2nd, repeating Champion Jon Elmaleh, the relieved organizer Michel Roue, Mark Golison in 3rd, scorekeeper Alexandra Ramos, and PRO Fred Rocha. Three in the photo have Central Park MYC memberships and three are from California, with many others attending from both coasts. Giovanni Seijo image.

End

Note, this and all my regatta reports are available from Jerry Brower's remarkable radio sailing website focused on IOM class: <http://www.ibextrax.com>