



How windy was it? It was blowing dogs off leashes and JWB's batten off his mainsail. One of these is true. Bob Wells image.

## 2024 Gig Harbor MYC Regatta #1 – IOM Class (March 9th at Surprise Lake, Milton, WA)

Bob Wells reporting and Daryl Ruff scoring:

This year's IOM sailing started with an unstable weather bang that including power outages, trees falling, and rain/hail. Windfinder.com forecasted our winds at 4-6 knots with gusts in high 20's. I've been sailing IOMs regularly at Surprise Lake since 2010, and one think I've learned is big wind forecasts never materialize on this lake. So, I didn't bring my B rig because I've been conditioned to not trust those predictions. SURPRISE! Windfinder was spot on this time. Can't say I wasn't warned.

Picture us sailing in a light breeze and then a high-20's gust streak blackens the water and slams down any boat in its way, and then moves on. They don't last long, and they are very streaky. Then we're back to light air again. How do you tune for that? Mostly the gusts were from the south, but sometimes they dropped down vertically or from the north or east. Shifty is an understatement.

Soon we figure out how to sail upwind or reaching in most of the gusts by easing sails to depower, and then work the sheets as needed to add/lose power to keep moving. JWB was superior at this and so often at the front of the fleet. He credits his time sailing EC12s, which are often overpowered. They taught him to depower by footing a little and to manage the pressure by working the sheets to keep moving.

Except, downwind these gusts were too big to avoid a round up if they found you. Couple a big gust with a slowly moving IOM in light wind, and your bow is going down. Depowering techniques like hiding your jib behind the main were useless. On most downwind legs the gusts flattened us more than once, and then they're gone and you're in light air again slowly moving to the marks. The key was to recover from being flattened quickly and get on with racing.

There was carnage of course. Peter Conze had boat issues from the big winds from the git, and finally he found it too difficult to make repairs in this wind, so he went home to his shop early. Dennis Pittis was sailing his new *Malteaser2* for the first time, a nice-looking yellow hull with a lot of volume, and his new 808 sailwinch packed it in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> race. No problem because Dennis arrived with a backup *Alternative* with a B rig in place. Dennis finished the day mostly underpowered or looking golden in the gusts, and he did win an especially windy race. David's woody had his rudder horn disassemble, but then promptly fixed it and he didn't miss a start. David promised to add Loctite, so this issue doesn't repeat. David also promised to find/fix his woodies leak that he thinks is where the lid frame glues to the hull. Daryl Ruff made a similar promise – we'll see because this has been going on for a while now. I have a long list of things to fix before the next race,

including a badly bent mast crane from a crash (a gust induced collision) and an old jib to replace (same crash).

Daryl Ruff organized this regatta and set the course and David Jensen pulled the buoys, and many assisted putting things away. They have gates here now, and the **passcode is 64999**, so make a note.

The post-race lunch was just down the road at Acorn's Brewing, where the banter continued, but without JWB. We waited for him outside the clubhouse for a while by his boat, and then decided this was non-productive and headed for the pub. After we finished, Jerry saunter's in and explained he had been locked in the bathroom wing of the club house. No shit. Staff has locked up on a slow Saturday and left. Jerry got out only because an outside maintenance guy heard his pleas to unlock the door for him. He also showed Jerry the button to push to unlock for himself...

3\19\24 IOM														
Scoring: RRS Appendix A														
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
142	Jerry Brower	1	12	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	5	3	1	2
40	Ian Beswick	2	21	9	3	2	3	4	2	5	3	1	2	1
07	Bob Wells	3	27	6	4	3	4	3	3	3	1	2	5	4
68	David Jensen	4	32	2	2	7	2	7	4	2	6	4	3	7
17	Dan Shier	5	42	3	9	5	5	6	6	6	2	6	4	5
57	Dennis Pitts	6	47	5	9	8	7	1	5	4	7	5	7	6
67	Daryl Ruff	7	49	4	9	6	8	2	9	7	4	9	6	3
00	Peter Conze	8	73	9	9	4	6	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

Sail Scoring made easy: [www.afleet.app](http://www.afleet.app)

David Jensen brought two woodies (*Panacea 3 & 4*) and showed us progress on his latest IOM design, *Panacea 4*. It is a sweet cedar hull, and you can follow his build log here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/724202551/>. A couple of recent construction pictures are below.



Progress on the new *Panacea 4* with the new Creed fin being temporarily fitted.



Progress on the new *Panacea 4* with the new Creed fin/mast box being temporarily fitted. You can see the foredeck shape, the mast well and support for the lid frame under the ply deck.

**Next up:** Seattle MYC #1 Regatta – IOM Class (Mar. 16<sup>th</sup> at Coulon Park; Renton – 10:00 AM start)

### SailboatRC Announces new VISS IOM in production:

SailboatRC recently announced an “Early Bird” pre-order opportunity for their brand-new VISS IOM RC sailboat. Shipments scheduled for June 2024, and this fully loaded comprehensive package is \$6,785 USD. More here: <https://www.sailboatrc.com/product/viss-iom-fastorder-premium/#hull-colors>



One of two VISS protos that performed very well at the 2023 Euros at Torrevieja, ESP. Zvonko Jelačić won and Ante Kovačević finished 5<sup>th</sup> for an excellent first major regatta for the VISS. Of course, these top sailors always do well at major international events, so there is that. Zvonko designed the VISS as an all-rounder that will perform better than the K2 in lighter winds. Innovations include a unique deck for end-plate effect, oval masts, and the rigs will fit the K2 (if you can afford both a heavy and light air boat). The VISS is intriguing because ZJ is an inventive designer that tests his new designs thoroughly before offering to the public. Initial impression is that this is one of the ugliest IOMs that I’ve seen, but if she is fast my taste will evolve to accommodate this deck shape for sure.

2/20/2024 Revised

## 2023 PacNW IOM & DF95 Regatta Schedule

Gig Harbor Model Yacht Club • Seattle Model Yacht Club

(Other selected regattas listed for reference)

Date	Time	Club - Event Name	Location	Contact	Phone
2/16-18	See NoR	<b>IOM – R8 Midwinters – 1.1x Ranking</b>	San Diego, CA	See NoR	
3/2	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
3/9	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #1</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
3/16	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #1</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
3/22-24	See NoR	<b>IOM - R7 Championship – 1.1x Ranking</b>	Hobe Sound, FL	See NoR	
4/6	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Saturday Spring Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
4/13	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #2</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
4/20	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #2</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	See NoR	(206) 232-9036
5/4	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Saturday Spring Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
5/11	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #3</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	See NoR	(253) 205-9965
5/18-19	See NoR	<b>DF95 - Region 6 Championship</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Dan Shire	(360) 789-6906
5/25	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #3</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
6/1	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
6/8	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #4</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
6/15	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #4</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
6/29	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
7/13	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #5</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
7/20	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #5</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
7/27	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
8/2-4	See NoR	<b>DF95 – Nationals @ Race Week</b>	San Diego, CA	See NoR	
8/5-7	See NoR	<b>IOM – Club Ranking</b>	San Diego, CA	See NoR	
8/8	See NoR	<b>M – Nationals @ Race Week</b>	San Diego, CA	See NoR	
8/17	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #6</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
8/24	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - SMYC – Regatta #6</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
8/31	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	See NoR	(253) 205-9965
9/7	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #7</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
9/14	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #7</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
9/28	9:30AM-1:30P	<b>DF95 – Saturday Regatta</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
10/5	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - GHMYC – Saturday Regatta #8</b>	Surprise Lake, Milton	See NoR	(253) 205-9965
10/12	10AM – 2PM	<b>IOM - SMYC – Saturday Regatta #8</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Bob Wells	(206) 232-9036
10/26	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Fall Series #1</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
11/9	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Fall Series #2</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
11/16	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Fall Series #3</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
11/30	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Fall Series #4</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965
12/7	10AM – 2PM	<b>DF95 – Fall Series #5</b>	Coulon Park, Renton	Daryl Ruff	(253) 205-9965

(Green) Multi-day national events (IOM, DF95) – See NoR

(Blue) Gig Harbor DF95 Regattas

((White) SMYC & Gig Harbor IOM Regattas

(Red) = Revisions

### Local Regatta Venues:

**Seattle MYC @ Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park:** 1201 Lake Washington Blvd., Renton, WA

**Gig Harbor MYC @ Surprise Lake:** Surprise Lake Village, 2800 Queens Way, Milton, WA.

**Anacortes RC Sailors @ Seafarers Memorial Park:** 600 Seafarers Way, Anacortes, WA