

**Pacific Coast Championship
Eugene Yacht Club, Eugene, Oregon
September 16-17, 2017**

Pos	Skipper	Crew	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total
1	Bob Bush	Sterling Bush	Aaron Gardner	2	2	4	1	3	12
2	David McCallum	Rob Postma	Just Shortone	3	4	1	2	6	16
3	Darrel Peck	Lori Daily	Abby Boudouris	1	6	6	3	1	17
4	Philip Parshley	Nanis Gilmore	Dean Boudouris	4	1	2	5	5	17
5	Roger Hicks	Bruce Harrington	Dean Shipman	7	3	3	4	4	21
6	Chris Duncombe	Scott Barrar	Jane Henley	5	5	7	7	2	26
7	Jeff Stong	Carl Peterson	Mark Hampson	6	7	5	6	7	31

The 2017 Pacific Coast Championship was sailed on September 16-17, on Fern Ridge Reservoir near Eugene OR. Eugene Yacht Club has held many national championships and knows how to throw a regatta and this was no exception. Fern Ridge is a fantastic place to sail with beautiful sunny skies, a big race course and a nice steady wind – most of the time. Unfortunately, this year, there were major wildfires to the east shutting down the wind machine and left us with a very light southeast wind and an ash-filled sky on Saturday. The fleet was six boats from Vancouver, WA (just north of Portland OR) and one boat from Vancouver BC – 428 miles away one way.

The RC was able to set a short 0.5 mile beat and the wind held steady enough for a good first race. Darrel Peck and Bob Bush got a jump on the fleet and were 1-2 all the way around the 3 leg course, with Dave McCallum third. The entire fleet was very tight from front to back.

The second race was even lighter. Philip Parshley lead at the first mark with the following pack heading in many directions down the very light air run. Philip figured the run out first, taking the low road with a nearly collapsed spinnaker, getting the gun on the shortened course, with Bob second some ways back as the fleet spread out on the very light run.

Eugene Yacht Club is a big club, very friendly, and made our fleet very welcome. We had a wonderful dinner and the fleet took advantage of the fantastic camping, or glamping for many of us. Scott Barrar showed us all how to put up a tent – in ten seconds. EYC gave us a wonderful dinner, and later, a south wind came in at sunset, cleaning up the air and leaving us looking forward to Sunday.

A south breeze in all western Oregon is the storm breeze and late Summer is a very early change of seasons. Still, there was wind and the rain was only about 10 minutes. David McCallum sailed an excellent race on the 1.3 mile beats and took race 3 with Philip second and Roger Hicks third.

Race 4 had the fleet split going upwind and the left (east) side came in big at the end with Roger leading at Mark 1 with Bob and David close and then a big gap. Downwind there were big holes and Bob and Dave were able to get by and hold those positions to the finish.

Race 5 – the last race – as the SI's only allowed 3 races on Sunday, was 2.5 laps. Racing up the first beat, big shifts and puffs rolled through the fleet, with Darrel Peck figuring it out best and Chris Duncombe – down from British Columbia – advancing to 2nd. Bob Bush with Sterling Bush and Aaron Gardner (from New Zealand via BC) were able to hold on to third and take the series. Dave McCallum and team sailed an excellent series and had blazing speed at times took second overall.