

## **IBR 2017 July 05 Day 10      Heartbreak, Barns, and Boats**

We are sad to report that Sam and Sydney Liles are out of the rally. They had a low speed get off while exiting a rest area and each is nursing a broken shoulder. Other than that, and being sore, they are OK. They were able to ride the bike to the hospital. The doctors have released them from the hospital, but would not release them to ride. They have requested assistance with collecting their bike.

After their trials and tribulations in 2015 (taken out of the rally by an ECM failure on a new BMW K16) and now, after they reported having already collected enough points to be a finisher, to not be able to ride to the finish is truly heart breaking. The Monday of the rally start was their 18<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They are clearly in it for the long haul and we hope to see them back after the pain and disappointment gives way to clear skies.

Phillip Weston reportedly hit something on the road in California and damaged both wheels beyond repair on his Triumph 800 triple. Jeff Wilson came across Phillip and rode ahead to access help. Phillip managed to get transported to a shop, bought a BMW R1100GS, and is seeking enough points to salvage his rally.

Mike Myron seems to be doing well. Why would that make the daily report? At the last Butt Lite, Lisa was scoring when Mike came in looking like meat-on-a-stick. He was discouraged and told Lisa that he wanted to withdraw his application from the IBR. He must have reconsidered after some recovery time.

Brian Walters left a rather cryptic message for Lisa: "... screwed up, but I am gonna finish this rally." We do not know what, or why, he believes he has screwed up.

Perhaps Brian's story would be a good interview topic for Justin Long after they finish this rally. Justin hosts Longriders Radio, a monthly podcast devoted to long distance motorcycling. He may have enough material from just the last few days to keep him busy for several episodes.

Scott Miller was in Pennsylvania and ran out of a critical medication. Fortunately, his sister had a supply of the same medication and was close enough to deliver it to Scott to save his rally. That is what family does.

Chris Ross seems to be having a good rally so far. Especially for a man who recently married his high school sweetheart. It is reported that Mikki is quite a good pillion. Perhaps they will be a two up team in 2019?

Greg Lenentine located a rear shock for his FJR, but it was not accessible in time for him to stay on schedule to get the points he needs. He stopped at home, off loaded some extra weight

(tools, etc), and emptied his aux fuel tank to remove as much weight as possible from the rear of the bike. He is heading to the barn while trying to minimize the hobby –horsing due to the blown shock.

Dale Bundy called in and asked if there was an allowance for roads being closed in NYC for the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration clean up. He wanted to collect a daylight only bonus, but the delay and re-routing had him arriving at night. You may be able to guess the answer that he received.

The speedometer/odometer has failed on Wolfe Bonham's BMW GS. Fortunately for him, he zeroed his GPS at the start of Leg 3 and will be able to use the GPS as his odometer.

Jerry Anderson on the hopeless GT750 two-stroke, with 77,000+ miles on it, is meandering up the Front Range and doing well as far as we know. We suspect that staying out of the Rockies and potential altitude jetting issues is one consideration for his choice of route.

Brian Church is out of the rally. He had some issues with his FJR after a wheel swap at Checkpoint 2, but was able to continue. However, he reported that a debilitating case of neck pain caused him to abandon his ride.

Veteran Craig Brooks may be hoping to stay out of the reports by running a smart rally, but alas, he gets a mention for taking the most photos per leg, by far, of any rider in the rally. He averaged 4.5 photos per bonus on Leg 2.

John Coons called the rallymaster outside of the call-in window, just to relate a story. He was at a fuel stop in Maine. A rider approached John at the pumps and said that John looked like someone who could witness the end of the rider's first IBA Saddlesore 1000.

John was a bit ahead of schedule and not heading to a timed bonus, so he said "Sure, I can sign your form." John ended the call noting that the excited rider "fared better than Jason". You may recall Jason Jonas' brief encounter with a stressed John Coons in an earlier report. How many SS1K riders can say they had their paperwork signed by a rider competing in the IBR?

Speaking of Jason Jonas, whose Spotwalla animations and tracking pages are mesmerizing this community and most likely reducing the national workplace productivity numbers, spectators are reminded that not all of the riders in the rally chose to have their tracks shown on the public page.

Following the animation page of Leg 3, it appears that many of the riders have reached their apogee. Their rubber band trajectories, starting in Dallas, spreading to the north, south, east, and west, have maxed out and are now rebounding. Many of the riders at this point in the rally are on the way back to the barn.



*mattress pad and bag you might regret it.*

*Hopefully you are able to fall asleep (you will) well and long enough to wake up 6 or even 7hrs later. The strongest will awake with no alarm. 6' seas and 30kts could have many feeling a bit queasy. If your screaming meanie is what wakes you it will be a shock to you and the passengers around you.*

*If everything goes according to plan you'll be "on the rock" by 08:00 with the next boat off at 11:45 or 23:45 that day or again at 11:45 the day after. 3.75, 15.75 or 27.5 hrs of time on the island. As an aside looking at a map of NFL if one were to make a point at what would be the furthest away you might go from the dock the round trip is only 1,135 or so miles. You can't take a rest bonus on the boat but you can on Newfoundland. Depending on what the bonus locations are and how many we could see riders coming back on the last boat today or the first boat tomorrow. I doubt it would be worth it to take 13hrs of ferry for 3.5 hrs on shore.*

Rob may not have realized until later that during this time of the season, once per week, on Wednesday, there is a special sailing at 6:30 a.m. to return from the island. That special sailing is the ferry the riders caught to return. Depending on how long the trip took to get to the island, they were on the island for about 24 hours. It also appears that they were not all collecting the same strings, which makes it even more interesting.

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## LNL

Harbourside Park  
Water St near Queens Cove  
St John's, NL

47.5671, -52.7029

24 hours

*Take a photo of the dog statues.*

These two statues represent the dog breeds named for this province; Labrador and Newfoundland. The statues were created by artist Luben Boykov and placed in Harbourside Park with a view of The Narrows and the Atlantic Ocean beyond.



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The largest point value on Leg 3 is located in Newfoundland at 7266 points. If a rider puts that bonus at the end of a legitimate string, the point value will become 29,064. That is more points than many riders collected on Leg 1 and Leg 2 combined. This is an example of why smart and experienced riders know better than to over extend themselves on Leg 1 of the IBR.

However, the potential strings in Newfoundland, by themselves, may not be enough points to win. Calculating riders will want to seek string opportunities along the way, there and back.

Those spectators that have been watching Spotwalla closely have seen signs that the riders that went to NL are likely to have other targets as well.

Watching Spotwalla indicates that one rider that will go unnamed, at least for now, took a ride on three ferries today!

There are also numerous, significant, string multiplier possibilities on the western side of the continent. About half the field chose to roam the open and scenic territory to the west, rather than plow through the eastern holiday traffic, or coordinate ferry schedules, will anyone vacuum up enough string multipliers on that side of the country for a winning total?

*John Harrison*

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*Iron Butt Rally©*