



MONTANA CUP

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2007 Montana Cup Hall of Fame

Ray Hunt



The aged Ray Hunt

On Saturday, October 27th, 2007, Rick Judge made the following announcement at the Montana Cup Awards Ceremony. . .

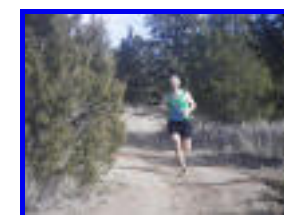
"I am pleased to report that the Montana Cup Hall of Fame members have selected a 2007 Inductee by unanimous vote (this could be the first time that John Hartpence, Robert Sowers, and Rick Judge have unanimously agreed on *anything* -- by contrast, the other HOF member, Nicole Hunt, is a very agreeable person). In a moment, I think you'll see why this year's decision was an easy one.

Let's start with attendance. This individual has run in every Montana Cup race except one -- an astonishing (and record) total of **fifteen races**. . .he has served as a team organizer [ten] times.

Not only has he shown up more consistently than anyone else, he has shown up **in style**. A cursory review of the results shows that he has finished in the top-10 **ten times**. In 1998, he won the

race outright, and the next year he enjoyed being a part of Team Bozeman's historic first dethroning of Missoula's men at the Montana Cup.

In 2006, he served as co-race director for the most spectacular Montana Cup in history, and raced to fourth place overall in an extremely competitive field. In doing so, he captured his second straight individual master's title, and led the Butte squad to their second straight men's master's team victory.



Butte's Ray Hunt cruising to the finish in fourth place at the 2006 Montana Cup in Butte

One of the criteria for selection as a Hall of Fame member is to have improved the event itself. This individual has done that time and again, and in every capacity imaginable. In addition to shaping the race into one of the most fun, innovative, and anticipated events of the year, he created the whole damn thing!

Obviously, the person I am talking about is Mr. Ray Hunt. Please join me in congratulating Ray for his well-deserved induction into the Montana Cup Hall of Fame . . ." <the crowd goes wild>



Montana Cup Co-Founders (L to R): Ray Hunt and Diamond Jim.

In his own words: "I can think of few higher honors than this induction. *Montana Cup Day* is my annual holiday, and nothing short of oblivion prevents me from celebrating it. My brain floods daily with thoughts of the Montana Cup, and that's okay, because obsession is a good thing when channeled properly.

"I have to give credit where credit is due. I **co-found** the 'Cup' with my old pal, Diamond Jim, back in '92, and **DJ and I** intended to provide Montanans with an opportunity for open-division team XC. Today, it really bothers me when people (those who can remember that far back) refer to the meet as, 'Ray's race.' It wasn't about me or my ego, and that is why I previously evaded nomination for this hall of fame, but it seems that I can no longer avoid it. John Hartpence summed up my predicament well when he wrote '*I don't think Ray can resist his entry into the HOF. He created this monster... how can he deny his own rules?!?*' So my thought is to 'relax and enjoy.' My dream is that the Cup will continue to unite Montana's runners long after I am done and forgotten."

Ray Hunt's Montana Cup History						
Year	Location	Ind. Place Overall	Team Place (pts)	Ind. Place Masters	Masters' Team Place (pts)	Notes
2016	Bozeman	86	7 (169)	19	Inc. Team	
2015	Helena	25	4 (118)	2	2 (49)	
2014	Missoula	63	7 (176)	18	4 (109)	
2013	Butte	20	5 (110)	4	2 (66)	Co-Meet Director with Diamond Jim
2012	Kalispell	25	6 (153)	3	4 (69)	
2011	Great Falls	24	5 (120)	4	3 (79)	
2010	Billings	DNC	5 (114)	NA	4 (87)	Fractured patella
2009	Bozeman	5	3 (81)	1	1 (22)	

2008	Helena	4	4 (101)	1	4 (70)	
2007	Missoula	15	5 (103)	2	3 (64)	Diamond Jim returns for Cup, only to mysteriously disappear again on the streets of Missoula
2006	Butte	4	6 (95)	1	1 (29)	Co-Meet Director with Wife, Nicole Old friend Diamond Jim leaves meet with Team Helena
2005	Kalispell	7	3 (68)	1	1 (29)	Co-Organized Camp Waterloo to form Masters' Cup rules
2004	Great Falls	7	5 (106)	NA	NA	Advised Montana's Governor Martz in her decision to strip the P-A-T from the first name of Helena's " rick " Judge as punishment for Judge previewing the Montana Cup course.
2003	Billings	3	5 (104)	NA	NA	
2002	Bozeman	4	3 (74)	NA	NA	
2001	Helena	2	3 (65)	NA	NA	On Helena's committee to define Montana Cup Mission Statement
2000	Helena	3	4 (77)	NA	NA	Moved back to Butte region and became Butte's team organizer
1999	Butte	9	1 (34)	NA	NA	Member of first team ever to defeat Missoula
1998	Butte	1	2 (37)	NA	NA	
1997	Butte	13	2 (50)	NA	NA	Moved to Bozeman and became Bozeman's team organizer; Married super-fast-girl Nicole Murray
1996	Butte	12	4 (100)	NA	NA	
1995	Missoula	13	5 (125)	NA	NA	Meet Director
1994	Missoula	7	Inc. Team	NA	NA	Meet Director
1993	Missoula	DNC	NA	NA	NA	Meet Director, temporarily retired from running due to injury
1992	Missoula	27	Inc. Team	NA	NA	Co-Founded meet with old friend Diamond Jim; \$1 entry fee, paid \$80 for two trophies, negative \$11 net profit; Ran for home team - Butte