



June 21, 2012

**To the Skippers and Crews of the 2012 Victoria to Maui International Yacht Race**

On behalf of all the members of Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and our friends in Lahaina Yacht Club, welcome to you, the skippers and crews in the 2012 Victoria to Maui International Yacht Race and to your families and friends.

Those of you starting this race for the first time will have been told repeatedly that Vic-Maui is a very challenging, but very rewarding race. That it is challenging is evidenced by the stories that are told. That it is rewarding is clearly demonstrated by the number of sailors back for the third, fourth or more, time.

The first race was an informal one, contested by three boats in 1965. Since 1968 the race has run continuously, on a biennial cycle. This year's race will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> official one. The continuity of the event has not simply happened. The continuity is the result of non-stop dedication by committees in Vancouver and Lahaina and by competitors from many ports in the Pacific Northwest. We recognize and thank competitors, volunteers, sponsors and organizations that contribute to the event's ongoing popularity and success.

We look forward to being with you on the starting line and watching you head past Race Rocks toward the open ocean and we look forward to enjoying maitais with you on the dock in Lahaina. Each of you has accepted the CHALLENGE of competing in the race; each of you anticipates the ADVENTURE; each of you is committed to the TEAMWORK needed for a successful crossing. We wish for you the success you seek.

Fair winds,

**ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB**

Guy Walters  
Commodore