



The Lahaina Yacht Club and the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club are pleased to announce the 2010 edition of the Vic-Maui International Yacht Race. Vic-Maui, first contested in 1968, is the pinnacle of Pacific Northwest ocean racing. The 2010 Vic-Maui race will commence off Victoria, British Columbia, with the first division starting on July 1, 2010. The race will finish by July 22, 2010 near Lahaina, Maui, a great circle route distance of 2308 nautical miles.

The Vic-Maui race challenges navigators to demonstrate their weather routing and navigational skills. Understanding the weather is critical when making decisions on navigating out of the Juan De Fuca Strait and along the Washington, Oregon and Northern California coasts to get to the trade winds first. Success depends on the navigator's skill in predicting where the Pacific High pressure zone will be, nearly a week into the future.

The adventure begins during the long days of mid-summer and each day of the passage South into the tropics brings warmer nights. Racers leave the Pacific High to starboard and are soon surfing down wind in the trades. The days pass quickly with the fleet surrounded by dolphins and albatross, spectacular sunrises, sunsets and brilliant starlit nights.

Teamwork gets the boats to the finish line near Lahaina, where day or night each arriving boat is greeted with an outstanding welcoming party. Family and friends meet the racers to celebrate the accomplishment with hugs, leis and mai-tais. The whole fleet attends the awards ceremony and another fantastic Hawaiian gathering. Many crew stay on to spend more time with their families enjoying Maui before heading home.

Preparing a yacht and crew for a major ocean race is a significant undertaking. Most successful teams start their boat preparation and safety training more than a year in advance. They also establish an early relationship with an experienced marine insurer who covers ocean racing. Vic-Maui fosters a spirit of cooperation among competitors, with past competitors acting as mentors to first time entrants.

Race after race, participants describe the Vic-Maui as their most memorable sailing experience and the adventure of a lifetime. It is our sincere hope that you will be among those at the awards celebration in 2010 who share in the honor and satisfaction of competing in this world-class event.

Go to www.vicmaui.org or call Marlene Bolster at 1 360 739 3377 for more information.