

2008 DCYC Sailboat Rally

On Saturday 24th May, DCYC held its first annual Sailing Rally. The rally is an event to promote sailing within the club and to get as many boats out on the water, and as many skippers and crew socialising on the docks and in the clubhouse as possible.

The day started with a fine pancake breakfast hosted by past commodores with donations going to the Learn to Sail Corinthian Fund. This part of the event raised \$200.

20 boats took to the water following registration and the skippers meeting, sailing two circuits of a triangular course starting at Lone Rock, past and around Racoon Island, to the southern top of Twin Islands. All boats eventually made it round and made it back to the clubhouse for refreshments and the playing of poker hands allocated according to boats positions as they went around the course. Much fun was had by all, with Al Mercer winning a fine rally vest with a flush, beating out Dave Winstanley in 2nd and Mark Doucette in 3rd place.

Rob Sloss was voted Rally Skipper of the year by democratic poll and will have his name engraved on the fabulous DCYC Rally Skipper trophy. Honourable mentions in the Rally Skipper voting go to Jeanne Miller who skippered the mark and photography boat, and who provided a fuel-starved "Medina" with a tow back to the dock, and to Jim Jarvis, skippering the committee boat, for fine seamanship in keeping the start/finish line from colliding with participants.

Photographs were taken on and off the water by Michael Elkan who ran a slideshow of the photos in the bar after the sailing. DVD slideshows of the event will be available from Rob Smith.

A 50/50 draw won by Fiona Gardner raised a further \$114 following which a potluck barbecue supper was enjoyed by all.

We will be holding this event again next year and hope to bring out even more sailors and raise even more money for the Learn to Sail program. And you don't have to be a sailor to join in. The breakfast and potluck is open to all members, and there are crew berths available on many/most boats. So sailors, befriend a powerboater or two, and powerboaters buy a sailing skipper a drink, and we'll see you all on the water next year.

Photographs are available for purchase (email your requirements to michael@michael-elkan.com) and can be browsed at: <http://gallery.mac.com/mikelkan> (select folder DCYC Rally 2008 and please enter the following info: Username: dcyc Password: rally2008)