



## Shackles & Cotterpins

### The Vic-Maui Newsletter

May 24, 2012

Attention Sailors:

**The Vic-Maui Fleet Of 14 Boats Is Actively Preparing.** A number of Vic-Maui boats sailed in the Southern Straits Race. A few weeks ago, *Kinetic* travelled to Astoria to beat all the way back to Victoria under sail in the Oregon Offshore Race. *Radiance*, skippered by Mark Ward, has just set sail from Seward, Alaska, en route to Victoria for the Vic-Maui start. Many Vic-Maui boats are sailing in the Swiftsure race, this weekend. You can follow the fleet using the [Swiftsure Race Tracker](#). More information on each of the boats in the [2012 Vic-Maui fleet is posted online](#).

**New Race Tracking System For 2012 Race.** We have selected [Yellowbrick](#) as the new race tracking system for the 2012 Vic-Maui. You may recognize Yellowbrick as the system already used by ocean races including the Sydney Hobart, Global Ocean Race, World ARC Rally and the China Sea Race. Our plan is to make a significant step forward with race tracking by using this proven system which is based on the Iridium global satellite network.

**SSB Radio Test And Practice Roll Call.** A Vic-Maui SSB radio test and practice roll call will be held on Saturday May 26. Details have been provided to the skippers and are also [available online](#).

**Frequently Asked Questions.** FAQ's on a variety of topics included Safety Consultations, Life Rafts and the Vic-Maui Handicap System have been [posted online](#).

**Victoria Update.** Plans for pre-start events in Victoria are well underway. The four Cruising Division boats will have their pre-start party on July 3 and will start on July 5. The ten Racing Division boats will have their pre-start party on July 5 and will start on July 7. The spectator boat fleet is being assembled. The combined fleet will be moored at the Causeway Docks in front of the Empress Hotel in Victoria's Inner Harbour. Information on [Victoria hotels offering special Vic-Maui rates](#) is available.

**Lahaina Update.** Plans for the finish in Lahaina are going well. The race finish deadline has been set for July 26 near midnight. Each boat will have their own sponsored welcoming party regardless of what time they finish, day or night. The traditional awards banquet will be held Saturday July 28. The weather is warm, the trades are blowing, and the many attractions of the Magic Isle await the Vic-Maui fleet. Information on [Lahaina area hotels offering special Vic-Maui rates](#) is available.

**Safety At Sea And Marine Offshore First Aid Courses.** The next BC Sailing Safety at Sea classes are planned for Fall 2012. The next Marine Offshore First Aid class is planned for June 2-3. Contact [Sarah McNally](#) for registration information.

*Shackles & Cotterpins* welcomes your feedback, comments and suggestions. You can contact us at [shackles.editor@vicmaui.org](mailto:shackles.editor@vicmaui.org) . You can find a list of all other [Vic-Maui contacts](#) on our website. We look forward to hearing from you. [Click here to unsubscribe](#).

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The Victoria to Maui International Yacht Race, first contested in 1968, is the pinnacle of Pacific Northwest ocean racing. Vic-Maui runs every second year, starting in June or July off Victoria, British Columbia and finishing near Lahaina, Maui, a distance of approximately 2308 nautical miles. Vic-Maui challenges navigators to demonstrate their weather routing and navigational skills. Success depends on the navigator's skill in predicting where the Pacific High pressure zone and trade winds will be, nearly a week into the future. The adventure includes sailing around the Pacific High and surfing downwind 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 each arriving boat is greeted with an outstanding Hawaiian welcoming party. Family and friends meet the racers to celebrate the accomplishment with hugs, leis and mai-tais. Many crew stay to spend more time enjoying Maui with their families before heading home.

Visit [vicmaui.org](http://vicmaui.org) for Challenge - Adventure - Teamwork!