



Antigua Yacht Club Annual Round the Island Race Saturday, 19 January 2013.

With blue skies, fresh tradewinds, and much enthusiasm, 19 yachts entered this year's Antigua Yacht Club Round the Island Race. With yachts ranging in size from 100 ft (Marama) to 26 ft (Digicel Challenger) the fleet was, indeed, varied. An 8 am start saw the small boats set off on the 51 mile course sailing anticlockwise around Antigua.

Interest was centred on the Volvo Open 70, 'True North' which, given the ideal conditions, was on a mission to break the record previously held by the 100 ft Swan 'Virago' of 4 hours 53 minutes 19 seconds set last year

With her permanent crew of eight and a guest list of sailors numbering up to 15, 'True North' screamed around the course and broke the record by over 30 minutes. This will be a hard act to follow and it is considered unlikely that this record will be broken anytime soon. 'True North' was awarded the 'Sizzling Bacon Trophy' for her record-breaking achievement.

The overall winner was Carlo Falcone with 'Caccia alla Volpe' taking the overall prize of the skipper's weight in rum - in Carlo's case this amounted to 96 bottles of rum!!



The smallest boat in the fleet "Digicel Challenger" at 26 feet was crewed by a teenage team from the National Sailing Academy. This was by far their most ambitious effort to date as they had previously only raced 'around the cans'. Their elapsed time was over seven hours and on corrected time they placed second behind 'Caccia alla Volpe' by just 3 minutes.



In third place - only 10 seconds behind 'Digicel Challenger' - was last year's winner - racing yacht 'Whisper' skippered by Mark Dicker.

In racer cruiser class Tanner Jones with his yacht 'Blue Peter' came first with Geoffrey Pidduck's 'Biwi Magic' second and Rick Gormley's 'Elethea' third.

In cruising class Tommy Paterson with 'Gypsy' was first and Don Ward's 'Frolic' finished in second place.

Full results can be found on our website at www.antiguayachtclub.com.