



The Royal BVI Yacht Club

Team Anguilla Win 13th KATS Premier's Cup Regatta!

In a hotly contested KATS Premier's Cup (9/10 July 2011), Team Anguilla won their first Premier's Cup, narrowly edging St Croix by 2 points. The victory was a result of three years of hard work and training from Team Anguilla, who had stated their intention of winning this year's regatta after narrowly missing out last year.

18 races over two days in IC-24 keelboats made for some very competitive racing from the 8 youth teams who travelled from all over the Caribbean and USA to the BVI to compete. Racing conditions were perfect, with good breeze and relatively minor swell allowing the teams to focus on maximum sailing performance.

Each boat was raced by teams of 18 years and under, and despite the competitive nature of the event all boats were raced in a sportsmanlike and friendly manner. Nonetheless there were a few minor collisions on the start line, underlining how much every team wanted to win!

At the end of the Saturday morning session, Team Anguilla had opened a substantial lead, thanks to 5 first places. At lunchtime every team rotated boats, so as to ensure no advantage could be gleaned from any possible difference in individual boat performance. In the afternoon session St Croix gradually closed the gap on Team Anguilla, and by close of sailing on the Saturday St Croix were leading by just 2 points. Third spot was also being hotly contested, with any of Puerto Rico, St Lucia and Team BVI in a position to take podium honours.

On Sunday morning the racing became much tighter – every team had improved and performed superbly. Going into the very last race, first place was still very close – whoever crossed the line first between St Croix and Team Anguilla would win. At the finish line Team Anguilla edged St Croix by half a boat length – a fittingly close end to such a well fought regatta! Team St Lucia took third spot, after an excellent performance in the Sunday morning session.

The overall event was organised by KATS, and the Royal BVI Yacht Club managed the on-water activities. There were also several fun off-water activities, including a frozen t-shirt contest and tug-of-war! The award for most-sportsmanlike performance was awarded to Team USA – they had only raced a few times together, so often found themselves towards the back of the fleet. Despite this they never gave up and never stopped smiling!

Everyone is already looking forward to next year's KATS Premier's Cup, after so much excitement and fun this year. Congratulations Team Anguilla!



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2011 KATS Premier's Cup Results

1 st	Anguilla	44 points
2 nd	St Croix	46 points
3 rd	St Lucia	64 points
4 th	BVI	68 points
5 th	Puerto Rico	71 points
6 th	Antigua	101 points
7 th	Grenada	115 points
8 th	Team USA	137 points

Note to editors – please e-mail sailing@royalbviyc.org if you require high-resolution pictures of the event. Low-resolution pictures are available on the Royal BVI Yacht Club website and Facebook pages.