

LIGHTWAVE YACHTS VOLVO PENTA ROAMING REGATTAOS

This three day extravaganza, was the fifth Annual Regatta Lightwave Yachts has hosted since 2004. Extreme weather conditions didn't dampen the high spirits of the Lightwave Owners and their Guests who braved blustery, wet weather over most of the Event time. The format for this year's Regatta was for the fleet to "roam" from their birthplace on the Gold Coast throughout the wide expanse of the sheltered blue waters of Moreton Bay.

The program kicked off on the Gold Coast with the Lightwave fleet anchoring off the Sovereign Islands and going ashore to a warm, dry venue for the Lightwave Cruisers Presentation "Cruising the Kimberleys & Pacific Islands", presented by LWY Operations Manager & World sailor, Mike Sabin, with contributions by fellow Lightwave cruisers and popular cruising author Alan Lucas. Principle sponsor Volvo Penta Representative Clive Anderson declared the Event open and assisted greatly with Event "wet-weather" contingency plans. Renowned Marine Photographer Julie Geldard, was present for the TAKE ME THERE photo competition judging, which proved to be a difficult task with the overwhelming excellent submissions by Lightwave Owners of their TAKE ME THERE moments (viewing available at the Gallery at www.lightwaveyachts.com).

Lightwave Yachts Regattas are run using a "hands on" approach by Lightwave Yachts own staff with the emphasis on fun and include parties and social functions every evening, not just for Owners but also for their crew and friends. "Our aim is to deliver an exceptional, professional event that celebrates everything that is Lightwave", comments Louise Overell, LWY Representative. "This event celebrates the unique Lightwave family spirit that exists between our Owners, pride in their Lightwave product and the camaraderie that has always existed between our Owners and the Company. The Event encourages the many friendships that have been founded at our Regattas, as well as the sharing of cruising experiences and places visited".

The opening night Event, "The Black Party" scheduled for "Under the Stars" was hosted "Under the Tarps" where Regatta participants and special guests were treated to a delicious Spit Roast dinner and Live entertainment. The following morning, competitive crews rose early to prepare for the judging of the SEABREEZE Best Dressed Crew and Boat and enjoy a Gourmet Deli Breakfast ashore. Colin Albrighton, from SEABREEZE attended the breakfast and judging. Finally, a winner was announced, with the SEABREEZE Portable Air Conditioning Unit being awarded to Lightwave 45 "Tribal".

Day two of the Event saw the Lightwave fleet battling the rain and wind, to the Canaipa Passage where boats were tucked into a safe anchorage and crews ferried (extreme weather contingency plan!) to an evening of entertainment and dinner at Coochiemudlo Island. The weather pattern made for great sailing conditions, as Lightwave crews experienced first hand the benefits of a protected steering station!

The final day of the event commenced with the RONSTAN Recovery BBQ, ashore at Karragarra Island, where the "teenage" crew from LW38 NORTHSTAR cooked up a storm (following a little bit of bribery and corruption from the LW elders experiencing the "day after" syndrome!), and Lucas Down from RONSTAN served up Bacon & Egg Burgers to a ravenous group of after - party sufferers. The fleet commenced the Moreton Bay Tactical Challenge shortly after, with the sun and blue skies trying to break through for a spectacular finish. Judging for the Annual Regatta Cup (30+/40+ divisions) required skippers to record starting and finishing times at specific turning points for courses suggested throughout the weekend. Points were added and deducted as the LW team saw fit, with the final results delivering the Lightwave Yachts Regatta Cup winners to LW35 "Blues Point" and LW45 "Tribal".

The Cups and Participation Plaques were presented to each Crew at the End of Regatta Presentation Lunch at Little Ships Club, North Stradbroke Island. The fleet created a spectacular sight with a Lightwave Raft Up consuming the anchorage. The infamous LWY Auction was staged with thousands of LW Auction dollars being bid for items supplied by Event Sponsors. As the Event concluded, the grey skies parted, the wind dropped and the sun shone on the gleaming Lightwave fleet.

Thanks to all Lightwave Owners and their crews involved in this event, and their terrific "can do" attitude with the challenging weather conditions!

LIGHTWAVE YACHTS warmly thanks the following Event sponsors for their support of the LIGHTWAVE YACHTS - VOLVO PENTA ROAMING REGATTA08







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