

The International Yacht Club of BC has over the years had a number of trophies for excellence, popularity and for the biggest or most compounded error of the year. Most of these trophies have been passed down from the IYC of Blaine when it moved to BC in 1986. A short history of these trophies follows.

The Dutch Cup

In the early days of the Retiree's Cruise the participants were always eager to get to their next destination. One of the participants was a Dutchman who was always anxious to be the first off the dock so that he could be the first to arrive at the new destination. His name was Bill Boeker. The other participants decided to make up a trophy so they could proudly present it to the man who wanted to get there first. The trophy sports a beautiful red tulip, the national flower of Holland, a specially designed sailing boat crafted out of a wooden Dutch clog with a Dutchman sitting in the cockpit wearing of course his wooden shoes. The trophy also has a can of Heineken beer in a prominent position because it was one of Bill's favourite beverages.

Bill thought that it would be fun to continue the legacy of this trophy so he decided that it should be awarded to somebody after the Retiree Cruise each year and so he drew up the following rules that apply to awarding the trophy.

The race can start on any day of the Retiree's Cruise at any time or any place and it could end at any time or any place not necessarily on the same day that it started. The only person who knows when the race is to be held is the person who holds the trophy from the previous year. The person who holds the trophy from the previous year presents the trophy at the next Commodore's Ball to the person who won it that year.

This ends the story of the infamous Dutch Cup.

O'Schmidt Award

This trophy is for the biggest blunder of the year. It is typically not given for any event that does not have some sort of humorous side to it.

This trophy was made by Roy Middleditch in the 1970s to commemorate Darch Osborne's adventures on his wedding anniversary. Darch took his wife Catherine to the Rosario Resort for a celebratory supper appropriately dressed in suit and evening gown. The docks were full so he tied his boat up to a mooring buoy and took his dingy

ashore, where he had to tie it up near the ramp to the dock. Catherine and Darch had a lovely meal in the restaurant that took several hours as they were not in a hurry and after all it was their wedding anniversary. On returning to the dock they found their dingy shattered into a hundred pieces under the ramp which bore a sign saying "DO NOT TIE YOUR DINGHY UP HERE."

Fortunately for Darch and Catherine a gentleman on the dock ferried them out to their boat.

Darch was the first recipient of the O'Schmidt award which was so named because we are a polite yacht club and would not call it O'Shit. The award is the end of Frans Ytsma's boom from his San Juan 24 which he bent on a windy race day, and bent propeller mounted on a polished hardwood plinth with an IYC burgee.

The Greer Award (Commodore's Appreciation Award)

The Greer award was presented to the IYC of Blaine by Stu Greer who was made a life member of the Club in 1975. His son Don a business entrepreneur, was a member of the Club in the early 1980s and Through the 1990s. Don was heavily engaged in water treatment in the Far East. He was also a power boater. The award is a polished hardwood plaque with a brass name plate describing the trophy. The trophy was first awarded in 1973 to Myron Terry the founding member of the Club who resurrected the Club in 1970. The trophy does not have a plaque on it commemorating this as the first commemorative plaque is to Saddle Herred in 1976.

It is a trophy that is awarded by the outgoing Commodore at the Commodore's Ball. The Commodore awards the trophy to the member of the Club who in the Commodore's opinion has done the most services for the Club in the preceding twelve months.

The Boating Family of the Year Trophy

This is another award that was brought over from the IYC of Blaine. It is a popularity award given to the member of the Club voted the most popular by secret ballot by all the members present at the Election Meeting in September. The award is presented at the Commodore's Ball.

The trophy consists of a clock in a wheel shaped housing mounted on a polished wooden plaque. The award was donated to the then International Yacht Club of Blaine in 1972 by the Northwest Marine Trading Association. The trophy was then transferred to the IYC of BC in 1986 when the Club moved to Canada.

The Rock-On Award (For Those Who Found Bottom)

This award was established in 2018 by Port Captain, Bruce Blandy, to commemorate the severe underwater rock strike and subsequent near loss of the SV Captivator, owned and skippered by Club Member Peter Langille, as Skipper and Vessel found the bottom on the approaches to Sidney, BC during the Retiree's Cruise of 2018. The award is presented annually to the Club Member who has most effectively "found the bottom". The first intended recipient of the award was, of course, Peter Langille, who ironically never took possession as he had relinquished his membership by the time of award.

This award consists of a substantial hunk of metamorphosed serpentine, mounted on a granite slab that in turn is mounted on a polished hardwood plinth. The weight of the award at 10 kg. reminds the recipient of why their vessel should never contact the Bottom.