



Report: 2012 Sailing Season

The summer of 2012 was another successful and exciting season at the Disabled Sailing Association of B.C. Nearly 300 adults and children with disabilities took part, including 97 individuals who sailed for the first time. DSA-BC hosted three regattas this year and our members participated in three others, including the internationally recognized Mobility Cup, which was held in September at the Nepean Sailing Club near Ottawa.

From Late May to Labour Day, our eight Martin 16 sailboats operated five days a week, in a variety of wind and water conditions. Children and adults combined for a total of 836 recreational sailings of one to two hours in length. Volunteers and staff accompanied over 600 of the sailings, including roughly 300 where members received sailing lessons and developed their nautical skills from our certified sailing instructors.

DSA-BC members logged 223 solo sailings this year, an achievement that reflects tremendous dedication and effort by those who have practiced and worked to develop their abilities. Among these sailings were fourteen that were accomplished via the specialized "sip & puff" controls that can be mounted into the Martin 16 for use by people with little or no mobility below the neck.



DSA-BC is dedicated to helping children with disabilities experience the fun and excitement of sailing and instill in them a lifelong love of the outdoors. DSA-BC's Children's Sailing Program saw 80 boats launched from Jericho, with many kids returning at least two to three times during the summer. Our annual Kids Adventure Day provided a fun and social environment for 12 children with a range of disabilities to enjoy a variety of outdoor experiences, including an introductory sailing, games, lunch on the beach and an adaptive hike with our sister organization, the B.C. Mobility Opportunities Society.

