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# **Event Report**

Royal Lepage Snow To Surf (event)

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Sun May 01, 2011

Leader: William Wright

Co-Leader:

The Mutineers are to be commended for their inaugural attempt at glory - the oldest mixed team in this adventure, going with a strong & balanced contingent, placed a respectable 118th out of 176 entries and finished 8th out of 10 teams in the very competitive Grand Masters Mixed Division. A well-done congratulations to the team and our support crew - just a fabulous day!

Rumour has it that the team may take another stab at the cup, next year, for the 30th Annual Running of The Royal LePage Snow to Surf so do forward your interest to this year's team captain, William.

Tim's report

The Mutineers, truly a team to be proud of, performed in excellent fashion and with an indomitable spirit that shined through to the end of the race.

As one of the official photographers for our team, I was in the enviable position of being able to get a better picture, no pun intended, of the overall effort involved in our Mutineers obtaining their 118th position. I started out at the transition from Ken doing the downhill section to Paula taking the wrist band on the Cross Country excursion.

We were lucky enough to have an excellent sunny start to the race and the snow conditions were near optimal for the time of year. Ken arrived at the transition zone in good form and handed over to Paula whilst there was still a good crowd of contestants awaiting the arrival of their downhill participants. Paula made a speedy start with no spills on the first icy corner away from her starting line. She managed to overtake quite a few other skiers on her route to the next transition.

Darrell was waiting at the next transition, so I took off down the Strathcona Parkway, in nose to tail slow moving traffic, to the point where the first runner, Jen handed over to Harvey for the long cross-country run. Ken was also waiting at this transition zone. Whilst waiting for Jen to arrive I took numerous pictures of the other contestants as they arrived in various states of exhaustion or, in some cases, looking like they had just stepped out of their house on the way to the office.

Next stop for me was Comox Lake for the transition from Carol doing the mountain bike section to Jenny doing the Kayak across Comox Lake. Another smooth transition was performed at lake side and Jenny was away with hardly a ripple of wasted effort. This spot provided me with several hundred great human endeavour pictures. Lots of wonderful expressions on the faces of the determined competitors.

Only the canoe section left for me to photograph. I started out at the Air Park in Courtenay and arrived early enough that only a few of the top teams had already taken off for the final section. I had fun taking another 250 pictures of the frenetic activity whilst waiting for William to arrive with the wrist band, transitioned from Bob

after his road bike section.

Susan was waiting for the call to get the bright red canoe "The Bedwell Sprinter", named and borrowed from Ruth especially for this event, lined up on the slipway. Eventually the Mutineers team number 182 was called and shortly thereafter William came loping along the path from his meeting with Bob, complete with the all important wrist band, and a determined look on his face. S & W made a nice water access that would not embarrass any self respecting canoeist, unlike some of the contestants who seemed to have preferred swimming alongside their canoe. As they turned the corner and headed over to Comox I took a few more pictures and then headed for the marina as well.

Most of the team had already arrived at the Comox Marina to cheer on Susan and William as they valiantly fought the turbulent seas to bring this epic event for the CDMC to a successful conclusion. Steering a direct and optimal course to the foot of the slipway, William, disturbed not in the least by a pink hat that was wrapped around his face, unerringly navigated the last few feet of this race to give the bell a resounding swipe to signify to all those in earshot that the CDMC Mutineers had concluded this event in magnificent style.

The team gathered in the designated beer garden for a few celebratory drinks, and some gravy endowed chips, before heading up to the Black Fin Pub for a well deserved dinner. Not all of the team were able to attend but Geoff and Glenny, who were there to lend vocal support, joined us as well.

I would like to thank William for organizing the CDMC team and all the club participants who gave me an excuse to take about 1500 photographs of the event.

More photos are available for viewing.

#### Darrell's added comments:

I was at three transition points where other teams messed up; e.g., one leading Nordic skier had to wait two minutes for the hand off to the runner, another leading cross-country runner wiped out on the last bend in the course, a front-running kayaker had to wait their cyclist. The Mutineers did everything perfectly: smooth transitions, great efforts and smiles that lit up the day. It was a pleasure to follow the course with them and my camera. Congratulations to all!

The full race results can be found on the web page URL show below.

## http://www.snowtosurf.com/race\_results\_2011.php



Ken completes the downhill section
[Tim Penney photo]



Ken handing over to Paula [Tim Penney photo]



Jen handing over to Harvey
[Tim Penney photo]



Carol waiting for her turn to move into the transition zone to meet Harvey [Darrell Tomkins photo]



Harvey rounding the bend with arm band ready to hand over to Carol [Darrell Tomkins photo]



Carol handing over to Jenny [Tim Penney photo]



Jenny just leaving as Bob takes off [Darrell Tomkins photo]



Susan and William heading to Comox
[Tim Penney photo]



William on the final dash to ring the bell [Tim Penney photo]



The Royal LePage Snow to Surf team. Harvey wasn't quite all there, but Photoshop did its best to add the rest of him. [Tim Penney / Christine Jenner photo]

Report contributors: Tim P, Darrell T, William W,

**Participant list (16 of 9):** Jennifer B, Geoff B, Paula F, Harvey G, Susan H, Carol H, Christine J:*guest*, Kurt N, Tim P, Ken R, Douglas R, Bob S, Darrell T, Len W, Jennifer W, William W,

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