

New Course Highlights the Annual OCC Invitational Swim

By Stefan Reinke

The 2012 edition of the OCC Invitational Swim on May 27 featured race course changes, challenging conditions, and good competition.

In previous years, the OCC invitational Swim actually was two races: a 1 mile swim that went straight out and back in front of the Club and a two mile swim that took the swimmers straight out and then down Waikiki towards the Royal Hawaiian.

This year the two race concept was dropped in favor of a single race of 1.2 miles. The competitors swam straight out from the Club and then swam a triangle course around a series of buoys before returning to the Club. The new course was designed to assist the water safety crew in monitoring all of the swimmers while providing a competitive and challenging course for the swimmers.

Because this is an open water swim, the conditions directly affect the swimmers race strategies. Unlike a pool race where swimming talent generally prevails, open water swimming requires navigational skills, good drafting techniques and the ability to change race tempo in an instant. Though the race was blessed by the lack of obvious high surf conditions (unlike the last few years) strong winds and a fairly significant current towards Ewa, made the compact course more difficult.

The first finisher was Eric Nilsson who gapped the second place finisher, Peter Hursty by over two and one half minutes. The third overall finisher was the first female competitor, Miki David. David was followed by the third male finisher and first OCC finisher, Wil Yamamoto.

The women's race was very competitive with Lectie Richards and Nalani Kaun coming in thirty seconds behind Ms. David. The full results for the race can be found in the 2012 results section at timelinehawaii.com.

As with almost any event held at the Club, the real highlight of the day was the Sunday Brunch. The post-race air was filled with a sense of accomplishment and camaraderie. It was plain to the Swim Committee volunteers that the race was another success.

Of course, no event can take place without volunteer and OCC Staff support. Volunteers included, Gerri DeBenedetti, Arnold Lum, Hina Torres de Sa, Katherine Nichols, Rachel Ross, Bonnie Leong, Bridget Abbott, Lisa Reinke and Todd Iacovelli.

Special thanks to Jason Pohlman and his staff for another excellent Brunch on the Beach and GM Mike Ako and his staff who help make this race possible (Mike even gets on his paddle board to help with the water safety support!).

Participation in the Invitational Swim is limited to members of swim and triathlon clubs. This year more than 150 swimmers entered the race. The race limit was met several days before the actual event. There was a strong turnout from triathlon and swim commu-

nities. But most impressive was the turnout from OCC members. Hopefully this will be the trend for this year's Castle Swim.

The Annual Castle Swim is traditionally held on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. It is open to Club members with their own number only. The course remains the same each year and participants are able to have personal escorts. While there is a race element to the event, it is also an opportunity to simply enjoy a swim with friends, see the sights off of Waikiki, and enjoy the fabulous OCC brunch on the beach. Look for more details regarding the swim in upcoming issues of the OCC Magazine.

OCC Invitational Swim May 27, 2012 1.2 miles

Overall	Name	Place	Time
1.	Eric Nilsson	1st, M20-24	25:36.3
2.	Peter Hursty	1st, M35-39	28:14.5
3.	Miki David	1st, W40-44	30:01.1
4.	Wil Yamamoto*	2nd, M35-39	30:06.5
5.	Kekoa Vieira*	1st, M0-15	30:13.6
6.	Dolan Eversole*	1st, M40-45	30:16.2
7.	Chris Miller*	1st, M45-49	30:21.9
10.	Kate Perry	2nd, W30-34	30:50.7
12.	Ryan Saunders*	1, M16-19	31:15.7
16.	Rachel Ross*	1st, W35-39	33:10.5
19.	Aaron Wallen*	2nd, M40-44	33:43.6
20.	Ward Saunders*	1st, M55-59	34:26.1
25.	Uli Klinke*	1st, M65-69	35:23.0
26.	Brad Myers	3rd, M50-54	35:34.2
29.	Katherine Nichols*	1st, W45-49	35:57.1
30.	Brigitte Egbert*	2nd, W40-44	35:58.8
31.	Candes Gentry*	2nd, W35-39	36:18.3
33.	Diane Corn*	2nd, W50-54	36:24.5
34.	Todd Iacovelli*	1st M25-29	36:29.1
35.	Laurie Foster*	1st W55-59	36:29.7
39.	Valisa Saunders*	2nd, W55-59	37:20.0
51.	Wilder Worrall*	2nd, M0-15	40:03.1
60.	Steve Shropshire*	5th, M50-54	41:21.4
68.	Brad Coates*	3rd, M60-64	42:34.7
88.	Peter Biggs*	4th, M60-64	47:12.9
90.	Stuart Feeley*	8th, M50-54	47:36.3
109.	Melialani James*	6th, W30-34	53:18.0
116.	Arnold Lum*	4th, M65-69	58:08.7
118.	Vernon Woo*	5th, M65-69	58:24.0
121.	Margo Worrall	8th, W40-44	1:00:43.9
123.	Kathleen Quinn*	3rd, W70+	1:02:40.0
128.	Donald Eovino*	5th, M60-64	1:05:02.5
132.	Lily-Anne Felton*	2nd, W20-24	1:11:47.8
134.	Richard Wheeler*	3rd, M65-69	1:12:29.9
137.	Blake Johnson*	5th, M70+	1:41:13.7

* OCC member



First place OCC winners were Kekoa Vieira, Uli Klinke, Ryan Saunders and Ward Saunders.

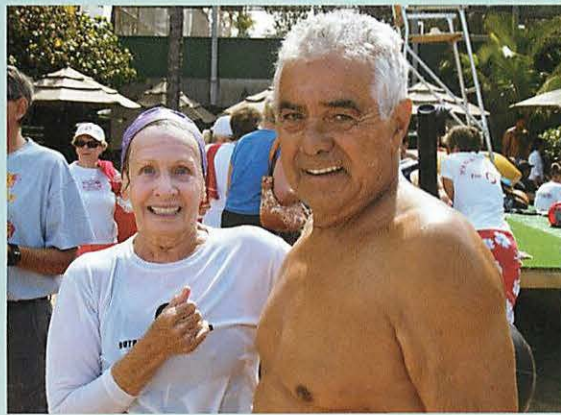


TOP: OCC women swimmers: Rachel Ross, Katherine Nichols, Valisa Saunders, Diane Corn and Laurie Foster.

LEFT: Steve Shropshire and Candes Gentry.



Margo and Wilder Worrall.



Kathy Quinn and Ernie Leskovitz.



Brad Myers was greeted by Linda Jameson.



First 'Riggers to finish: Dolan Eversole, Chris Miller and Wil Yamamoto.



OCC Swim Committee: Laurie Foster, Gerry DeBenedetti, Todd Iacovelli, Arnold Lum, Stefan Reinke.



Stefan Reinke gives pre-race instructions to swimmers.

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