

Women's Molokai-to-Oahu canoe race has record field

Star-Bulletin staff

A record 50 crews from Hawaii, the U.S. mainland, Australia, Canada, England and New Zealand are entered in Sunday's 16th annual Bankoh Na Wahine O Ke Kai, the women's Molokai-to-Oahu outrigger canoe race.

Considered the world championship event for long-distance canoe racing, the 41-mile Na Wahine O Ke Kai starts at 7 a.m. off Hale O Lono Harbor. The first finisher is expected between 12:30 and 1 p.m. at Duke Kahanamoku Beach at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

OffShore Canoe Club of California, which has won the race seven times, is the defending champion. The Newport-based club also holds the course record of 5 hours, 44 minutes and 13 seconds, set in 1990.

KCCN-AM 1420 will broadcast live reports during the race. KHON-TV2 will telecast the finish live beginning at 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Hannie Anderson at 262-7567.