Athletic Committee Report



George Wessberg

By George Wessberg, Club Captain Kisi Haine, Club Captain

The 2007 Athletic Committee consisted of the usual 10 sports and fitness subcommittees. All subcommittee chairs functioned within their

proposed operating budgets. Members of the Volleyball and Canoe Racing subcommittees raised thousands of dollars to support their programs.

The metrics by which the Board of Directors measures the success of the Athletic Committee emphasizes member participation and competitiveness, especially in volleyball and canoe racing. Again this past year, more than 10 percent of our members participated in Club sponsored athletic programs or sports events.

The junior volleyball program is strong and continued to add more competitive girls. The Canoe Racing program registered approximately 330 members for the regatta and distance seasons despite the lack of a suitable practice venue.

Our athletes performed admirably in distance canoe racing, national volleyball competitions, and in local and state surfing, paddleboard and one-man competitions. The entire masters division of the Canoe Racing program performed extraordinarily well during the regatta season. Every subcommittee has an active, enthusiastic and hardworking group of members.

The OC1/Kayak subcommittee, chaired by Billy Philpotts, completed the first year of the new watercraft locker and rental agreement system. Although there were a few misunderstandings and some ruffled feathers, the process was considered absolutely necessary and fairly administered by the vast majority of members involved.

The temporary surfboard rack utilized during the summer was greatly appreciated. The next phase of the project will be the renovation of lockers in the alley to increase space for the larger volume canoes.

The Beach & Water Safety subcommittee, chaired by Dolan Eversole, completed new guidelines and implemented new testing criteria for the certification of steersman for our four-man surfing canoes. This necessary change was also disconcerting for a few members, but the process was deemed necessary by the vast majority of our experienced steersmen to assure the Club and the community that safety and competence is our primary concern.

We thank our Coordinating Director, David Buck for his advocacy and guidance; Mike Ako, Gordon Smith, Don Isaacs and the extraordinary OCC staff for their cooperation and support; and the dedicated members of our committee, Jen Bossert (Canoe Racing), Mark Jackola (Surfing), Dolan Eversole (Beach & Water Safety), Dennis Blake and Jim Wienke (Swimming), Chris Crabb (Volleyball), Katy Bourne (Running), Frank Kingery and

Phil Sevier (Golf), Billy Philpotts (OC-1/Surfski), Kanesa Duncan and Ken Bailey (Paddleboard), and Carolyn Corrigan and Arnold Lum (Fitness), for their invaluable contributions of time and talent. We thank Chris Crabb (Volleyball) for his service and welcome new member Jay Anderson (Volleyball) to our committee for 2008.

Again, we thank the members of Outrigger Canoe Club for your patience during the spring and summer when our enthusiastic paddling program stresses the staff and strains the facilities. We will continue our search for a permanent ocean practice venue.

On behalf of the Athletic Committee, coaches and athletes, Kisi and I thank you for your generous financial support during the past season and for your commitment to the future of our sports programs.

