



Athletic Committee Report

By George Wessberg, Club Captain

The members of the 2003 Athletic Committee provided excellent leadership for our various teams, crews and individual competitors through a remarkable season.

The Outrigger Canoe Club won many trophies; however, the organization, communication, sportsmanship and unity that permeated our athletic programs were most noteworthy.

Assistant Club Captain Kisi Haine provided valuable support and Coordinating Director Tom McTigue provided appropriate guidance during the season. The fiscal responsibility of our subcommittee chairs, especially Courtney Seto, the chair of Canoe Racing and Peter Ehrman, the chair of Volleyball, made it possible to operate within our annual budget. We had productive meetings with the Budget and Long Range Planning Committees. The majority of subcommittee chairs attended our annual Athletic Committee meeting on January 27, 2004.

Some highlights of our athletic programs during the season were:

- *Beach & Water Safety* – Chair Rick Hobson and Don Isaacs initiated or improved many services within their purview. Most appreciated by members were the Sunday canoe rides, Aka Hemming' Summer Steering Clinics and Canoe Exploring, and water safety support for our many water sports events.
- *Canoe Racing* – Our upper division women, under the direction of Coach John Puakea, had the best crew in the nation. The men's program, under the leadership of Coach Kala Judd, was also very strong and will be even better this year. The youth program, led by perennial Coach Keoni Kino, continued its growth and helped the Club win our third consecutive Oahu Championship. Anthony and Siana

Hunt took care of everything that needed to be done during the regatta season including a sensational awards banquet.

- *Fitness Center* – Phil Whitney and his subcommittee continued to do an excellent job of maintaining our busy exercise facility.
- *Surfing* – Terri Needels and Kisi Haine have worked hard for years to develop our surfing program and their efforts paid dividends last year. Two of our amateur female surfers were ranked in the top ten nationally and two of our men are competing internationally on the professional tour. The Summer Surf Clinics are over-subscribed by adults and junior members. The Rell Sunn documentary in October was a wonderful end to a terrific season.
- *OC1-Surfski* - Three of our members, Chair Sue Brown, Sean Monahan and Karel Tresnak Jr. won their respective surfski and one-man divisions in the Kanaka I Kai Ka series. Walter Guild provided weekly one-man training sessions from the Club during the season. The subcommittee hosted the annual Tri-Ocean Race.
- *Swimming* – The subcommittee, chaired by Dennis Blake and Arnold Lum, hosted the annual Invitational Swim and the Castle Swim. Young swimming prodigy, Kristi Torkildson, was the first woman to win the Castle Swim.
- *Volleyball* – Five junior teams went to the nationals in Phoenix, AZ and they returned with four trophies. The popular Daddy Haine Tournament had more teams than they could accommodate and provided a finish that was the most exciting in recent memory.

On behalf of our many athletes, coaches and subcommittee chairs, Kisi and I thank the membership and the Board of Directors for their generous support of our athletic programs. We will continue to do our best to perpetuate the sports of old Hawaii.