Athletic Committee Report



By George Wessberg, Club Captain

The members of the 2004 Athletic Committee oversaw the activities of 10 sports and fitness programs. The subcommittee chairs

enthusiastically supported their respective programs. Once again, the Athletic Committee functioned within the proposed operating budget.

In addition to the highly successful Summer Canoe Steering Clinics, a new jewel was added to our crown by many volunteers from the Beach & Water Safety subcommittee. The Ko Kai Nalu program was a one-week intensive waterman training course for 15 Junior members. This program has been detailed in the *Outrigger* magazine and on our website. It will be expanded this summer in response to demand.

A comprehensive 10-year capital budget for athletics was submitted to the Long Range Planning Committee. In addition to regular refurbishment and replacement of paddleboards, Surfboards and canoes, this proposal included a schedule for replacement of whalers and motors.

The Board of Directors established a list of "metrics" by which the success of the Athletic Committee would be measured and by which the operating budget would be allocated. Foremost among these metrics was to achieve participation in various athletic programs and events by at least 3% of our members. Of the approximately 4,700 active members, we registered approximately 490, or 10% of our members in Club spon-

sored athletic programs or sports events during 2004.

The Board of Directors also emphasized competitiveness. Our elite athletes performed admirably in distance canoe racing, volleyball, surfing, paddleboard and one-man competitions at the state, national and international levels. The accomplishments of our individual athletes, sports teams and paddling crews were published regularly in the *Outrigger* magazine. We thank Marilyn Kali for her outstanding support of our committee and the many volunteers who submitted articles and photographs.

Our sixth place finish in the Hawaii Canoe Racing Association State Championship was disappointing and largely due to the strength of the growing youth programs in the larger canoe clubs. In an effort to improve recruitment and retention of youth paddlers in our Club, we sponsored a PCA Leadership Workshop in November.