

Biggest Turnout Ever for OCC Invitational Swim

By Ray Robinson
Photos by Marilyn Kali



Swimming Committee members Jim Weincke, Ginger Thornburg, Gerry DeBenedetti and Ray Robinson register swimmers for the swim.



More than 100 swimmers participated in the OCC Invitational.



Chris Moore, Ben Komer and David Stackhouse were top OCC finishers in the 2-mile.



OCC's Ted Sheppard, Vic Hemmy Jr., Roger Cundall and Laurie Sloan all entered the 1-mile swim.

About 7:30 Sunday morning, May 22, the Hau Terrace became sort of a pleasant madhouse as 105 swimmers from many different swim clubs shouted greetings at each other, milled about, had numbers painted on their arms and legs, collected their swim event-shirts, and donned the personal ankle bracelets which would automatically record each swimmer's finish time.

It was the largest number of participants ever to show up for OCC's annual Invitational 1-mile and 2-mile swim, in the 22 years the meet has been held.

Dennis Blake, Swim Committee chair and meet coordinator, checked the weather and ocean conditions and declared the day perfect. It had dawned bright and clear, with very light trades, a little bump running low tide which makes for clearer water, and just a slight current running from town towards Diamond Head.

Blake briefed all swimmers gathered on the OCC beach, led the group to the San Souci beach and fired all of them off together at 9 a.m. sharp.

Twenty-four minutes and 24 seconds later, Roger Cundall came through the finish gates to take first place overall in the 1-mile in 24 minutes and 24 seconds. Ted Sheppard came in second in :26:52 and third place went to Gary Bignami in :27:21.

Among the women, Linda Kaiser splashed home in :27:35, first place for women in the 1-mile, and fourth overall. Diane Stowell was second in :31:11, and third place went to Laurie Sloan whose time was :32:57.

Laurie's husband Bruce came in first in the Men's 55-59 age group in the 2-mile in :57:21.

In the men's 2-mile event, Kalen Darling, 17, took first overall in :47:46. Number two spot went to Chris Moore for a time of :51:12. Quinton Darling came in third in :51:26.

Perennial participant June Harrigan swam in the one-mile, but husband Arnold Lum missed the event as he was in Jeffries Bay, South Africa surfing. Tough life, but I guess somebody's got to do it.

Only one Hemmy made it this year (sometimes there are three) and Vic Jr., running late, almost missed the starting gun, but came in second in his age group in a very respectable :35:17.

Age of the participants ranged from 13 to 77.

The sumptuous OCC Brunch was enjoyed by more than 100 swimmers and escorts, and prizes were awarded to the many winners.

The last two swimmers came in long after most were at breakfast, and received a rousing hand of applause for

hanging in there and finishing.

Thanks to Beach Captain Don Isaacs and his crew of Sam Clemens and Ron Baker for setting the course buoys and bringing them in afterwards, patrolling the course in the whaler, and setting up the tents on the beach.

Kudos also to the Swim Committee members Dennis Blake, Ginger Thornburg, Blake Johnson, Diane Stowell, and Club general manager Bill Comstock for making the event happen.

Outrigger Canoe Club Invitational Swim May 22, 2005

Results

One Mile

Place	Name	Age Group	Time
1.	Roger Cundall*	1, M 55-59	24:24.0
2.	Ted Sheppard*	2, M 55-59	26:52.1
3.	Gary Bignami	1, M 50-54	27:21.1
4.	Linda Kaiser	1, F 50-54	27:35.1
5.	John Weikum	2, M 50-54	28:43.0
8.	Diane Stowell*	1, F 70-99	31:11.5
11.	Laurie Sloan*	2, F 50-54	32:57.6
13.	Victor Hemmy II*	2, M 60-64	35:17.5
20.	Brad Coates*	4, M 50-54	36:26.6
25.	Blake Johnson*	2, M 65-69	43:09.4
30.	Jim Zachary*	4, M 70-99	46:22.6

2-Mile Swim

Place	Name	Age Group	Time
1.	Kalen Darling	1, M 0-19	47:46.7
2.	Chris Moore*	1, M 40-44	51:12.1
3.	Quinton Darling	2, M† 0-19	51:26.1
4.	Nicole Hagi	1, F† 0-19	52:04.7
5.	Ben Komer*	1, M 25-29	52:11.2
15.	Walter Guild*	1, M 45-49	56:51.6
18.	Bruce Sloan*	1, M 55-59	57:21.0
23.	Ernie Leskovitz*	1, M 65-69	57:55.8
24.	David Stackhouse*	1, M 35-39	58:46.5
26.	Stefan Reinke*	3, M 45-49	59:23.2
32.	Chad Harrison*	1, M 50-54	1:03:13.9
38.	Uli Klinke*	1, M 60-64	1:08:27.4
39.	Matthew Kresser*	4, M 40-44	1:08:55.3
43.	Jim Wiencke*	2, M 60-64	1:10:55.2
53.	Chris Worrall*	6, M 45-49	1:20:36.4
55.	Anne Perry*	2, F 45-49	1:23:32.3
56.	Hugh Damon*	5, M 40-44	1:24:29.1
64.	John Wacker*	6, M 40-44	1:35:53.2

*OCC member