

Scratchfest Brings Out Paddleboarders

By Kalani Schrader

The late Cline Mann would have been proud to see the heightened level of participation and enthusiasm from both competitors and fans that flocked to OCC for this year's Summer Scratchfest Surf Relay held on June 25.

Under sunny skies and backed by a nice 2-3 foot south swell at Old Man Bowl, more than 30 teams entered this unique surf relay event that had both local and international scratchers gathered to challenge themselves and the elements.

This year organizers had five divisions which ran in three separate heats. In the first heat the Super Groms scrapped it out and it was Kawaihoa Loui and Cole Jones who hit the beach first winning the coveted Glass Ball First Place trophy. Finishing a strong second was the team of Teja Laird and Ava Kilpatrick followed closely by third place finishers Nanea Philpotts and Malia Sandvold.

Every year the Junior Division gets more competitive and gains momentum as young enthusiastic paddlers embrace the sport of paddle boarding as a way to cross train and improve their overall ocean skills. After the ehukai had settled, the junior team of Riley Kawananaoko and Hobey Moss scratched their way to first place with Avi Laird and Henry Mesker in second and Gabriel Goes and Kawaihoa Loui nipping at their heels in third.



ABOVE: Pat Dolan and Heath Hemmings won the 75 and under division.



LEFT: Hobey Moss and Riley Kawananaoko won the Junior Division.

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In the Same Last Name division age old rivalries and the competitive vibe was overflowing as the athletes lined on the beach for the start of this highly anticipated race. The formidable team of Billy and Trey Balding took the win with the father and son teams of Buzzy/Kyler Kerbox and Wyatt/Cole Jones finishing second and third respectively.

The third and last heat of the day featured the Combined Age of 75 and Under division. Clawing their way to the top of the podium in first place was the second year team of Pat Dolan and Heath "original scratcher" Hemmings with the always competitive team of Colleen Tessler and Nick Fox in second and ahupua'a Kawela locals Noa and Johnny Ginella making the trek from the North Shore to finish a strong third.

In the Combined Age over 75 division and representing Ku'au on the east side, the MCBS lifeguard team of Brad Akeo and Ian Macdonald successfully negotiated the course in first place with OCC's own Trey Balding and John Hicks finishing a solid second followed closely by the team of Ka'a'awa kingpin Matt Sack and veteran waterman Aaron Napoleon in third.

Big thanks and props go out to the team of Black Point and RB regulators Blair Thorndike and Greg Quinn for their dedication to the sport of paddle boarding and participation in the annual Scratchfest race.

Big shout out and mahalo to all competitors, fans, parents, OCC Beach Services and staff, Mark Jackola, Kristen Watumull, Dolan Eversole, Sophie and Charlotte Schrader, Pat and Angie Dolan for their efforts towards and support of this grass roots event. Top finishers in each division as follows:



ABOVE: Catching a wave during the race were Dolan Eversole, Hobey Moss and Trey Balding.

ABOVE: Noa Ginella, Brad Akeo and Ian MacDonald toast Cline Mann with a pitcher of beer. Cline, who kept surfing alive in Hawaii, always bought a pitcher for the winners.



LEFT: Cousins Billy Balding and Trey Balding won the Same Last Name division.



RIGHT: Kalani Schrader, center, had great help putting the race on from daughters Sophia and Charlotte, and Mark Jackola.



RIGHT: Entering the Super Grom Division were Ava Kilpatrick, Malia Sandvold, Nanea Philpotts and Teja Laird.

Summer Scratchfest Surf Relay
June 25, 2016
Results

Combined Ages 75 & Under

1. Pat Dolan/Heath Hemmings
2. Nick Fox/Colleen Tessler
3. Noa Ginella/Johnny Ginella
4. Travis Grant/James Donovan
5. Sam Mackie/Jonathan Figueroa
6. Dolan Eversole/Holden Takahashi
7. Josh Jackson/Doug Sangillo
8. Kaeo Abbey/Kailoa Akaka

Combined Ages More Than 75

1. Brad Akeo/Ian MacDonald
2. John Hicks/Trey Balding
3. Matt Sack/Aaron Napoleon
4. Blair Thorndike/Greg Quinn
5. Pat Wong/Johan Loo
6. David Kalwick/Billy Balding
7. Bruce Black/Sargent Pinkerton
8. Karen Figueroa/Jake Bursack

Junior (17 & Under)

1. Riley Kawanakoa/Hobey Moss
2. Avi Laird/Henry Masker
3. Gabriel Goes/Kawaihoa Loui
4. Aukina Hunt/Mahina Akaka

Same Last Name

1. Billy Balding/Trey Balding
2. Buzzy Kerbox/Kyler Kerbox
3. Cole Jones/Wyatt Jones
4. Karen Figueroa/Johnathon Figueroa
5. Dolan Eversole/Skye Eversole
6. Patrick Dolan/Colin Aus Dolan

Grom (12 & Under)
(1 time around inside buoy)

1. Kawaihoa Loui/Cole Jones
2. Teja Laird/Ava Kilpatrick
3. Nanea Philpotts/Malia Sandvold
4. Jack Lyons/Colin Aus Dolan
5. Ollie Hope/Skye Eversole

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