

Aussies Win 2015 Summer Scratchfest

By Kalani Schrader

Initially the brainchild of Winged "O" recipient and OCC legend the late Cline Mann, the 2015 Summer Scratchfest paddleboard surf relay race went off again without a hitch on Saturday June 27 under sunny skies and perfect 3-4 foot surf at Old Man bowls.

Approximately 26 teams entered in this unique surf race that had both local and international paddlers gathered at OCC to participate in this grass roots special event. Conditions were perfect and competitors were challenged on the paddle out through the surf and treated with multiple "left slides" on the way in from the buoy set outside of the bowl.

The field was littered with famous scratchers, watermen and OCC names like Balding, Hemmings, Haine, Rigg, Pflueger, Abbey, Ginella, Watumull, McKinney, Dolan, Takahashi, Akaka, Laird, Masterson, Philpotts, Lyons, Thorndike, Quinn and Hunt but it was the Aussie invasion that took top honors in the premier combined age 75 years and under division.

The Australian team of Hayden Allum/Fletcher Davies scratched and surfed their way into first place overall with Nicholas Fox/Colleen Tessler in second just edging out OCC's own team of Hunter Pflueger/Nat Yee.

In the combined ages over 75 years division and representing the North Shore, the team of Mike Cheape/Quintin Cizek negotiated the course in first place with Pat Wong/Doug Sangillo finishing a solid second and the consistent team of Blair Thorndike/Greg Quinn putting in a strong effort to finish third.

Every year the junior division gains more momentum as young enthusiastic paddlers embrace the sport paddle boarding as a way to

cross train and improve their overall ocean skills, exactly what Cline Mann would have wanted. As the groms lined up for the start, the excitement and anticipation in the air from both the competitors and the crowd lining the beach was thick as it was anybody's guess as to who would grab top honors.

After the ehukai had settled, the team of Mahina Akaka and Aukina Hunt made their parents and fans proud by finishing first with Teja Laird and Nanea Philpotts second and Kailoa Akaka and Ford Lyons finishing third.

In the "Same Last Name" division rivalries and the competitive vibe was overflowing as the scratchers lined on the beach for the start of this good fun race. Coming out of retirement Mark Rigg teamed up with grom Jack Lyons to bring home the gold with the team of Kainoa McGee and Keapuono McGee-Lee hot on their heels for second followed closely by the team of Kailoa and Mahina Akaka.

Special thanks to Marc and Kisi Haine and Chris and Jacqui Laird for their participation and "show up, blow up" competitive spirit. A special "Lifetime Scratcher" award was presented this year at the race to "Winged O" recipients Marc and Kisi Haine for their dedication to ocean sport and the OCC traditions.

Special mahalo goes to OCC management, Beach Services, Angie and Pat Dolan, Maile and Sophia Schrader, Vik and Kristin Watumull and Keoni Watson for their contributions making this event possible. Also a big mahalo to all who showed up to participate, spectate and support the long standing tradition of paddle boarding at Outrigger Canoe Club. Until next year. Aloha.

Scratchfest Paddleboard Relay Race June 27, 2015 Results

Combined Age 75 and under

1. Hayden Allum/Fletcher Davies
2. Nicholas Fox/Colleen Tessler
3. Hunter Pflueger/Nat Yee
4. Heath Hemmings/Pat Dolan
5. Noa Ginella/Johnny Ginella
6. Trey Balding/Lane Saito
7. Drew Watumull/Keapo McKenney
8. Johan Loo/John Figueroa
9. Leane Darling/Jianca Lazarus

Same Last Name (or almost)

1. Mark Rigg/Jack Lyons
2. Kainoa McGee/Keapuono McGee-Lee
3. Kailoa Akaka/Mahina Akaka
4. Chris Laird/Jacqui Laird
5. Marc Haine/Kisi Haine

Junior Groms

1. Mahina Akaka/Aukina Hunt
2. Teja Laird/Nanea Philpotts
3. Kailoa Akaka/Ford Lyons
4. Jack Lyons/Kupono Akaka

Combined Age over 75

1. Mike Cheape/Quintin Cizek
2. Doug Sangillo/Pat Wong
3. Blair Thorndike/Greg Quinn
4. Clark Abbey/Ian Masterson
5. Peter Takahashi/Mike Takahashi
6. Rodolfo Byrne/Sean Ginella/Anthony Hunt
7. Kelly Tan Sing/Martha Chang
8. Mark Eliashof/Marc Etherton



Pat Dolan and Heath Hemmings.

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The winning Aussies, at each end, flanked OCC members Noa, Sean and Johnny Ginella.



The Groms were Aukina Hunt, Jack Lyons, Kailoa Akaka, Kupono Akaka, Ford Lyons, Mahina Akaka, Nanea Philpotts and Teja Laird.



Nat Yee and Hunter Pflueger.



Mark Rigg and Jack Lyons.



May and Peter Balding cheered on grandson Trey Balding.



Marc Etherton and Mark Eliashof.



The Masterson clan, Finn, Lana and Madeira, cheered for their dad Ian and his partner Clark Abbey.