

CALIFORNIA OCC ENTRIES SHARE D-H RACE HONORS

Two visiting Californians dominated the blue-ribbon six-mile event at the 11th annual Diamond Head surf-board paddling championships December 28, but a 17-year-old OCC beach attendant stole the show with a herculean one-man performance.

Joe Napoleon, recently crowned junior champion at the Makaha International Surfing Championships, placed first in the mixed tandem event, an overall fourth in the six-mile event, second in the stock board class, third in the men's 220-yard sprint and was a member of the winning 800-yard medley relay event.

He won the 17 and under race but was later disqualified on a technicality.

Jim Piper of Hermosa Beach and Richard Clark of San Diego, finished one-two in the six-mile feature event.

In his second placed effort, Clark was named champion in the stock board class.

Piper's time was 47 minutes 55 seconds and Clark 56:01.1.

Club members Peter Balding, Napoleon and Ron Sorrell finished behind the Californians in that order.

The OCC's Rabbit Kekai edged Butch Hemmings and Napoleon in the men's 220-yard race.

The 800 yard run-swim-run-paddle event was copped by Kekai's team of Ron Matthews, Billy Danford and Napoleon.

A second Outrigger team of George Downing, Butch Hemmings, Paul Gebauer and Wayne Land were second.

Honored at the paddling championships was John Lind, founder and president of the sponsoring Waikiki Surf Club. It was in the same year he organized the rival beach club, 1948, that Lind also established the Diamond Head races.