

OCC 14's Take Silver Division at JOs



Front: Conner McCorriston, Jon Stanley, Matthew Saffery, Shea Suzumoto, Davis Lau, Kris Ma, Ethan Westcoatt. Back: Assistant Coach Derek Suehiro, Claudio Clini, Kanai Akana, Robbie Allen, Parker Van Dyke, Head Coach Brandon Kikuchi.

The Outrigger Boy's 14s were the only Outrigger team to compete in the Open division at the USA Boy's Junior National Championships in Houston, Texas from June 29-July 2. The Open division is the most competitive division in each of the different age groups.

Initially seeded 20th out of 36 teams in the tournament, the 14s competed with and defeated some of the best teams in the country. This was so despite having a young group with nearly half the team made up of 13 year olds.

The Junior 'Riggers advanced toward the gold pool during the first two days of the tournament nearly upsetting the second ranked team, Torimar, from Puerto Rico. The boys played with great heart and fight and Club members would be very proud of the way they represented themselves and the Outrigger.

The run toward the gold ended with a loss to the second and fourth seeded teams in the tournament on the third. However, the team kept fighting and won its remaining matches. The 14s ended up taking 9th overall and winning the Silver Division of the championship.

Brandon Kikuchi was the head coach of the team. He was assisted by Derek Suehiro.

Team members were Kanai Akana, Robbie Allen, Claudio Clini, Davis Lau, Kristofer Ma, Conner McCorriston, Matthew Saffery, Jon Stanley, Shea Suzumoto, Parker Van Dyke and Ethan Westcoatt.

The team thanks the Outrigger Canoe Club for its support throughout the season and on the trip. They are looking forward to more great years ahead.

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Young Guns Finish 19th in 16s Division

By Danny McInerney



Boys 16

Front: Easton Kays, Diego Garcia, Hookela Hanohano, DJ McInerney, Ethan Siegfried. Back: Chris Siegfried (Assistant Coach), Noa Kerner, Hunter Johnson, Satya Mindich, Danny McInerney (Head Coach), Stephanie Johnson (Chaperone).

With six, 15-year-olds and two 16-year-olds Outrigger Canoe Club sent a Boys 16 team to the Junior Olympics in Houston, Texas. We began in 42nd seed out of 56 teams. Along the way we upset the number one seed and lost a heartbreaker to the number two seed.

The team's confidence continued to grow as the tournament progressed. In the end we had an outstanding showing and ended up 19th. Although we will be losing two players, we will be returning six and plans are in motion to return to 16 and under division and now be the "Top Guns."

In Houston we were lucky to tour Rice University, work out there, and meet various coaches there.

Speaking on behalf of my assistant coach Chris Siegfried I want to say thank you to the Outrigger Canoe Club for allowing the kids, and ourselves, to be a part of such an outstanding experience.

Members of the team are Diego Garcia, Ho'okela Hanohano, Hunter Johnson, Easton Kays, Noa Kerner, DJ McInerney. Satya Mindich, and Ethan Siegfried.

Volleyball Courts to Close for Major Maintenance

Starting Tuesday, September 2, the Volleyball courts will be closed for major maintenance. There will be no usage of the courts during the project. The courts will be re-lined for waterproofing and the chain link fences will be replaced or repaired where applicable.

During the project, Canoe Alley will be open. Please note however that access may be limited at times. The project is estimated to take approximately two months. Thank you for your kokua.

OCC 17's Win Bronze Bracket



Boys 17

Front: Naia Singlehurst, Todd Gruebner, Rohan Watumull, Kelsey Yogi, Alec Henderson, Eleu Akimseu, Ben Swanson. Back Row: Nainoa Frank (Assistant Coach), Sam Bradley, Justin Kam, Wil Stanley, Kolby Kanetake (Assistant Coach), Vernon Podlewski (Head Coach).

OCC 17s began their tournament with a strong showing, going undefeated after day one of pool play, and holding on to their number one seed in the pool and number two seed overall. The Zippy's chili and rice that awaited them back at the hotel that night hit the spot, and as the boys ate, they refreshed their phones, anxiously waiting for the new pools to update for the next day.

They learned they would either face a strong San Juan, Puerto Rican team, or a fellow Hawaii team from the Big Island, Southside. By the end of dinner the boys knew it would be an Outrigger vs. Southside battle to get to the Gold bracket.

Day two arrived, and every match was a must win to earn a chance for medal contention. Unfortunately, the OCC boys lost a heartbreaker to the Southside team in the first match of the day, with set scores of 23-25, 26-24, and 10-15. After that tough loss, they knew they needed to beat the remaining teams in the pool to move on.

They handled the Canadian Canucks team with scores of 25-16, 25-18, but suffered their only other loss in the tournament to RVC in another three-set battle, which saw numerous ties, lead changes, and match point opportunities, but that ended with a score of 18-20 in the third. The disappointing loss meant no Gold bracket this year for this group, and new goals for the remainder of the tournament.

With no time to dwell, on day three and four the team refocused. They knew that as hard as it was, they needed to pick themselves up, support each other, finish strong, and win out, which is just what they did. They won the next five matches, beating Coastal, Pali, Ohana, Pipeline, and D1 Chicago, finishing with 9-2 record overall, and champions of the Bronze bracket.

Team members were Eleu Akimseu, Sam Bradley, Todd Gruebner, Alec Henderson, Justin Kam, Naia Singlehurst, Wil Stanley, Ben Swanson, Rohan Watumull, and Kelsey Yogi.

Vern Podlewski was the Head Coach and was assisted by Kolby Kanetake and Nainoa Frank. The team would like to thank the Outrigger Canoe Club for its generous support.