

Boys 14 Wins AAU Junior VB Championships

By Scott Rigg

The Outrigger Canoe Club Boys 14 volleyball team travelled to Chicago, Illinois this past June to claim the AAU Junior Volleyball Championship.

The "boys from the baby court" dropped just two sets throughout the four-day tournament. Each day saw the Outrigger playing better and better and by the final day, OCC was "the team to beat."

OCC won their pool with an 8-2 record, advancing to the second round power pool. They won this pool also with a 4-0 record and earned the first seed for the single elimination round, containing 12 teams.

Outrigger avenged a loss in the semifinals two years earlier by beating their arch-rivals CYC North of St. Louis (self named "the Posse"), a team that hadn't lost a match in two years. A boisterous "pro-Posse" crowd watched as OCC combined reckless defense, powerful putaways and superb ball control to beat this hand-picked all-star squad in straight sets in the semifinals.

Outrigger then went on to beat a talented Maryland Gold team in the finals, 15-7, 15-5.

Team members included Lucas Rigg, Dominic Griffin, Kevin Crabb, Keola Keahiolalo, Dylan Fern, Lindsey Breeden, Duff Janus, Aaron Ackerman, Zack Payne and Jimmy Austin.

The boys were coached by Denny Fern, Chris Crabb and Scott Rigg.

All-American honors were earned by Dominic Griffin and Kevin Crabb, with OCC setter Dylan Fern chosen as the Most Valuable Player.

Despite all-star selections, this championship was surely a 10-man effort. No "weak links" on or off the court—the necessary ingredient for championship play. Be looking for these junior players in years to come.

Mahalo to the Outrigger Canoe Club for all your support.

Boys 16s

The Boys 16 and under team, coached by Tony Crabb and Bruce

Blankenfeld, traveled to Austin, Texas to play in the Junior Olympics, July 6-10. Forty-seven teams from around the U.S. were entered.

In first round pool play, the OCC took first place, placing them into the second pool play division. Facing much stronger competition they were able to take second place, earning them a spot in the Silver division in the elimination round.

Here they garnered second place, losing in three games to Magnum of Anaheim, California, and were 10th overall in the tournament.

Members playing on the team were Koa Ostrem, Blake Cherry, Nai'a Blankenfeld, Paie'a Speilman, Dominic Griffin, Dylan Fern, Scott Wong, Milo Haneberg, Kaione Crabb, Scott Gamble and Clayton Stanley. Ø



The winning Boys 14 team was Duff Janus, Aaron Ackerman, Jimmy Austin, Lucas Rigg, Dylan Fern and Dominic Griffin, front; Coach Scott Rigg, Kevin Crabb, Zack Payne, Coach Chris Crabb, Keola Keahiolalo, and Lindsey Breeden.



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