

Outrigger to Sponsor 1977 AAU National Volleyball Championships

by Dave Pierson

They may be a long way off right now, but May 7, 8, and 9th, 1977 are dates to keep in mind. On those dates, the AAU National Volleyball Championships will be held in Hawaii for the first time.

The Outrigger Canoe Club has won the bid to sponsor the event. This means that we will be responsible for the scheduling, officials, nets, times, etc., and we will need volunteer help from interested Club members. The Hawaii AAU is host for the tournament, which will be using McKinley High School, the Nuuanu YMCA, and Mid-Pacific Institute for matches, culminating with the finals at Block Arena. (Blaisdell Memorial Center is scheduled for the Ice Capades).

Former All-American Ron Sorrell is overall chairman, and the great Pete Velasco — many times All-American, past captain of the U.S. Olympic Team, Volleyball Hall of Fame member and OCC star — is the Tournament Director.

There will be 50 to 100 teams competing in Men's, Women's and Masters division brackets. If the OCC can repeat its 1975 performance this year, we will be the team to beat in the Men's Division and will have a golden opportunity in the Masters.

The visiting athletes will live in style, as Convention Services International has arranged for accommodations in the Hilton Hawaiian Village. United Airlines will be the official carrier. The following weekend the USVBA Championships will be held in Hilo, and an even bigger field is expected for that great event.

Those interested in being volunteers or "Go-Fers" may leave their names with Fran Pearson or Ron Sorrell at the front desk. Following are the chairmen for the AAU tournament:

- Ron Sorrell — Overall Chairman
- Pete Velasco — Tournament Director
- John Beaumont — Equipment
- Wally Young — Awards
- Guy Harrison — Banquet
- Myra Vickery — Program