

Junior 'Riggers Earn Bids to USA Junior National Championships

Outrigger sent two junior volleyball teams to the NoDinx NCVA 2014 Boys Bid Tournament January 11-12 in San Mateo, California, and one to the SCVA Tourney in Anaheim, California.



Boys 14 - Front: Assistant Coach Derek Suehiro; Ethan Wescoatt, Davis Lau, Jon Stanley Jr., Shea Suzumoto, Kristofer Ma. Back: Connor McCorriston, Claudio Clini, Robbie Allen, Parker Van Dyke, Nicholas Yuh, Head Coach Brandon Kikuchi.

Boys 14

By Kevin Allen

Our Outrigger Boys 14 red volleyball team practiced together during the fall months working hard on skills and preparing themselves for competition. One goal for this team was to qualify for the Open Division of the USA Boy's Junior National Championships in Houston, Texas in June 2014.

In order to accomplish that task, the team traveled to San Mateo to play in a qualifying tournament where they needed to place in the top three to qualify for the Open Division.

The team arrived in Oakland late Thursday night and with the help of a great group of parents, made it to their hotel for a short night's sleep and an early rise for a day full of practice and team bonding.

On Saturday morning the boys were again up early (4:30 a.m.) Hawaii time and with a quick breakfast they were off to the San Mateo Events Center to begin their tournament. The boys were seeded seventh to begin pool play, and although coming out a little flat proceeded to go 5-0 with straight set wins. It was a very successful first day filled with intense play from our boys.

Sunday's event again had the boys up early, and ready to play. To finish off the pool play portion, the boys took down Diablo Black 14s in three sets. We moved into the semi-finals where we beat Central California 14s in two sets.

On we went to the finals, where we were to meet the number one seeded team in the tournament, Mountain View 14s Red. OCC fell behind at the start but managed to fight back and take the first set. The second set was a back and forth battle, seeing Mountain View edging OCC for the victory.

The third was again back and forth with some excellent play by both teams. Mountain View was able to hold off a late push by OCC to capture first place for the tournament leaving Outrigger in second place, earning the coveted open bid to the national tournament where they will compete against the best teams in the country.

The Outrigger 14's team and all the parents and coaches represented the Outrigger Canoe Club and the State of Hawaii with a great deal of class and Aloha. On to the Junior Nationals in Houston!

The team members were: Robbie Allen, Claudio Clini, Davis Lau, Kristofer Ma, Connor McCorriston, Jon Stanley Jr., Shea Suzumoto, Parker Van Dyke, Ethan Wescoatt, Nicholas Yuh.

Coaches are Head Coach Brandon Kikuchi, Assistant Coach Derek Suehiro.



Boys 16 - Front: Ethan Siegfried, Luke Kaumatule, Noa Kerner, Easton Kays. Back Row: Noah Montemayer, Diego Garcia, Ho'okela Hanohano, Hunter Johnson, DJ McInerny, Satya Mindich, Kana'i Akana.

Boys 16 VB

By Stephanie Johnson

OCC Boys 16 volleyball team was weary from travel, but they rallied to win their first game in two sets. The games were all close, but in the end they ranked 11th winning four and losing three (nine sets won).

Late Sunday afternoon the boys had some free time and Jeaney Garcia arranged a tour with Luke Kaumatule (former Punahou student) at Stanford. The team was treated to a personal tour of the university's athletic facilities.

The ten players returned feeling closer to their teammates and excited for Junior Nationals in July.

Members of the team are Kana'i Akana, Diego Garcia, Ho'okela Hanohano, Hunter Johnson, Easton Kays, Noa Kerner, DJ McInerny, Satya Mindich, Noah Montemayer, Ethan Siegfried.

Boys 17

By Julie Henderson

After late night New Year's Eve celebrations, the 17's boarded flights on January 1, heading for the SCVA Anaheim Qualifiers held at the Anaheim Convention Center. The team was seeded 30th going into pool play and their first game of the tournament was against the second seed.

They did not win that game but they did not hang their heads and at the end of pool play they had qualified for the Gold bracket, with their only two losses to the first and second seeds. The 17's final record was 6-4, finishing thirteenth overall out of 52 teams.

The team will be 10 strong heading to Houston for the Junior National Tournament in the Club Division, July 2-5. What makes this team special is the comraderie and respect these young men have for one another, their coach, and the supporting parents.

All the team members will be playing for their respective schools this year and will come back together after that season is done; we wish them all the best!

Team members are: Eleu Akimseu, Sam Bradley, Todd Gruebner, Alec Henderson, JB Kam, Will Stanley, Ben Swanson, Rohan Watumull, Kelsey Yogi. Not making the Anaheim trip was Naia Singlehurst.