USA Junior Olympics Volleyball

By Jeannin-Melissa Russo

The Outrigger Canoe Club was represented by three boy's teams at the USA Junior Olympics Volleyball Tournament, in Atlanta, Georgia in July. They competed in the 18 Open, 18 Club and 16 Open divisions.

The 18 Open team was comprised of Taylor Akiyama, Erik Shoji, Jordan Inafuku, Beau Albrechtson, Colin Ishii, Reese Haine, Tri Bourne, Riley McKibbin (Captain), Brad Lawson and Tim Harrison. The head coach was Dave Shoji who was assisted by Charles Jenkins and Ryan Woodward.

They entered the competition ranked 22 out of 36 teams and ended their season by taking third place in the Gold division in the defeat of SPVB 18 Mizuno in two sets (25-20, 25-17). The Outrigger 18 Open boys brought back a bronze metal with a 19 win and two loss record.

The Outrigger 18 Boys Club team came into the competition with a ranking of 29 out of 57 teams and ended their season as 21st, with a record of 15 wins and 13 losses. Members included Nick Castello, Phillip White, Daniel Hee, Blake Hixson, Jeremy Kaimakaua, Simeon Ke-Paloma, George Bukes, Tyler Greenhill.

The 16 Outrigger Open team consisted of Richard Budar, Maddison McKibbin (Captain), Anthony Crabb, Max Fujio, Shaw Richardson, Taylor Donovan, Henry Cassiday, Noah Hammond, Jacob Brovelli, Taylor Crabb, Joshua Lucas. Head coach of the team was Diana McKibbin who was assisted by Richard Budar.

The Boys 16s were ranked 18 out of 36 teams and ended the tournament in third place in the Gold Division by overcoming SPVB 16 Mizuno in three sets (25-19, 16-25, 15-10). The 16 Outrigger Open team brought home the bronze medal and ended the competition with a 17 win and 10 loss record.

Special mention went to Tri Bourne, Riley McKibbin, Henry Cassidy and Maddison McKibbin for making the all Tournament teams in their respective age groups.