

Highlight of

OCC FISHING TOURNAMENT: 8 fish

By Brad Thiessen, Chairman of Boating and Fishing Committee



LEFT: Tiare Finney presents winners with the perpetual trophy she donated. From left George Norcross, Steven Shoda, Tiare Finney and Aaron Woodley.

MIDDLE: Brad Thiessen grills catch from the tournament at the banquet.

RIGHT: Team Catch Fish: Mike Muzynski, Ty Thiessen, Kyle Kawada.

The OCC Fishing Tournament held on October 22 was a huge success. The year 2011 was originally slated as a start up year for OCC's newly established Boating and Fishing Committee, but instead they hosted a great event.

The tournament had some of Hawaii's best Captains and Boats. Eleven teams entered with 37 total anglers. The "jungle rules" format was created after great discussion and thought. Qualifying fish for this tournament were limited to mahimahi, ono and aku.

Independent start location and time along with the use of technology to email or mms (via text) your fish photos worked outstandingly. Tournament base was Kristi Matson who fielded calls and verified all catches. Kristi put a great amount of time and effort into organizing the tournament and banquet. She wrote the rules and made sure everything ran smoothly. A big mahalo to her!

Clear skies and calm winds provided a beautiful start to the day. As time passed, the winds picked up and conditions got a little rough. The ocean was buzzing with baitfish everywhere. However the predators weren't biting much. The tournament brought in eight fish total.

The tournament winner for big fish was a 21 pound mahimahi caught by angler Aaron Woodley on George Norcross's Team Mahalo. The crew names will be placed on the perpetual trophy that Tiare Finney donated in memory of her late mother. Team Mahalo

just barely edged out Kyle Kawada's 19 pound mahimahi from Brad Thiessen's Team Catch Fish, captained by Mike Muzynski on the *Summerhawk*.

Anglers who caught the biggest fish in each category won \$100 POP Fishing and Marine gift cards. Aaron Woodley of Team Mahalo received first prize for mahimahi. Keri Ogelen from the Kona Mauka Trollers Team #2 caught the largest aku. No ono were caught, however Cully Kamisugi of team Kamisugi Lures was given a \$100 POP gift card for the team that boated the most fish. He caught two mahimahi and two aku.

The tournament day ended with an awards banquet at the Club on the beach. Many outstanding raffle prizes were awarded including four custom lures made by Cully Kamisugi, Costa Mesa sunglasses donated by POP Fishing and Marine, a gift certificate and skirting for lures from Five Oceans Seven Seas, and sterling silver jewelry from Beach Baby. Vik Watumull of Happy Shirts created a fantastic tournament shirt.

Participants had fresh caught mahimahi right off the grill and some rainbow runner sashimi. It was a great culmination to an outstanding day.

The Boating & Fishing committee would really like to thank Club Captain Jen Bossert and Food & Beverage manager Jason Pohlman for helping with the tournament. A large mahalo goes out for everybody that was involved. Please contact outriggerboating@yahoo.com if you are interested in being involved with this committee.