

Athlete of the Month

Art Mallet

By Amy Lawson

If you don't know Art Mallet, You. Are. Missing. Out.

This month's athlete is an Open Men's paddler, the short-stop for the OCC softball team (yes, there is a team!), and lead tactician for the paddling program when it comes to qualifying boats and maximizing regatta points with a limited number of bodies.

Among his various talents (he walked onto Lehigh University's NCAA Division I fall baseball roster and then decided to play Div-I club ball), one that cannot be overlooked is his ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with the numerous "Type A" personalities in our Club's paddling community (guilty!).

He is also extremely humble, a master of Excel spreadsheets, and really fun to be around, which is why he deserves even more praise for the countless hours he spends serving the Club.

For example, his behind the scenes work this year put OCC in the hunt for the 2017 Macfarlane Regatta overall title. Art helped to recruit and coordinate top open steersmen to ensure that every single OCC crew participating in the race had a driver that would give them the best chance of winning.

He even made a color-coded sheet for "impact races"; races where our Club had drawn

a good lane and our top rivals Lanikai, Hui Nalu, and Kailua had drawn less favorable lanes or were scratching the race. On July 4th, he tracked race results throughout the day to see where Outrigger and the competition stood after each event, and he helped to facilitate crew personnel changes to keep us in the fight for the title. Did I mention that he also raced a mile with the Junior Men's crew?

Art came up through Outrigger's novice program in 2012, and currently paddles with the Open Men's program. He did his first Molokai Hoe in 2014, and now lives, eats, and breathes more paddling than I'm sure he's ever wanted to. But that is the beauty of paddling.

Art is also without a doubt the best player on OCC's coed softball team, which won the Division III City League title in 2016; the best fielder, the best bat, the best arm-- and he is quick as lightning-- just ask anyone who gets on base in front of him (Natasha Haine).

When I mentioned to Art that I wanted to feature him as the "Athlete of the Month", his response was a modest, "no, no, no." Sorry Art, I've got the power and it feels good. Thank you for the various contributions you make to our Club!



Art Mallet goes through the victory tunnel after a winning race.