WE WON! We Got the Aikane Cup Back

By Mariann Tesauro

This year the OCC Golf Group hosted the Annual Aikane Cup Challenge, against the Pacific Club on October 17. The tournament was held at beautiful Klipper Golf Course on the Marine Corps Base in Kaneohe.

The course was soggy due to rain the night before, but more importantly the wind which was blowing 25+ mph, made the course play longer. The team hoped this would work in their favor seeing that their opponent's handicaps were quite high.

OCC was giving an average of seven strokes per match, with a high of 15 strokes in one match. The odds were definitely against us going into it and the team all knew they had a huge hurdle to overcome in order to capture a win.

The Aikane Cup is based on the usual Ryder Cup format. A rules committee meeting is held before the tournament to discuss and confirm the rules of the tournament and any possible changes prior to the matches. Each team is made up of 12 players, with one alternate.

Twelve players compete in a total of eight matches, consisting of one Alternate Shot, three Fourball and four Singles Matches. Our team was handpicked by the captain, Jarriel Tuinei, and the Golf Committee. The lineup and results were as follows:

Alternate Shot

John Conway/Harry Kersten: Lost 1 down

Four Ball

#1 Jarriel Tuinei/SE Lee: Won 6 and 5 #2 Charles Everest/Sean Ginella: Halved #3 Scott Meichtry/Mark Thomas: Lost 3 and 2

Singles

#1 Eric Tema: Halved#2 Jordan Chouljian: Won 1 up#3 Cana Day: Won 1 up#4 Hargon Holland: Won 2 and 1

Alternate: Chuck Jones OCC GM Rep: Marie Hicks Final Score: OCC 5, Pacific Club 3

It definitely came down to intense singles matches, with most matches either being down or tied with four holes to play. Tema made a huge putt on the final hole to scratch out a half point and, Jordy held off in the end to give the team a full point.

Cana's match was really exciting as he was down one on 17 and was giving strokes on those last two holes. Making par would not have cut it, but he hit an awesome bunker shot at 17 and ended up with the tap in birdie to win the hole and tied it going into 18. He stuck his tee shot on the difficult Par 3 18th green and, hit another spectacular putt for birdie to win his match and bring a full point into the clubhouse.

Our current Club champion, Hargon Holland, had an up and down match throughout, but in the end, held his ground and showed us why he's our Club champion bringing in the final point for OCC to seal the deal.

This was definitely a tournament to remember, that provided all



Outrigger's Aikane Cup team celebrates its victory in the Ka Mo'i Lounge.

the drama of a real Ryder Cup, here in our own little backyard.

Kudos to the Pacific Club, Chuck Reindollar, Ed Shimuzu and their players for a hard fought and intense tournament. Our OCC team stood steadfast under pressure, and brought the Aikane Cup back to the OCC!

