



Lining up for the first heat were Dolan Eversole, Jimmy Austin, Trey Balding, Skye Eversole, Ellen White, Mati Durkin, Kobey Damon, Aukina Hunt, Ariana Hunt, Trevor Hemmings, Micah Pedersen, Robby Kelley and Chuck Kelley.

Summer Scratchfest Surf Relay

By Kalani Schrader

Dawn broke on Saturday, June 16 and with the sight of a solid south swell pumping through Old Man's bowl, we knew the 2018 Summer Scratchfest was going to be epic.

The late Cline Mann would have again been delighted to see the competitors nervously fumbling around to find leashes for their equipment given the sizeable surf. The sky was sunny and Kanaloa was delivering a beautiful three to five foot south swell just in time for the morning's festivities.

With more than 23 team entries, this year's Scratchfest was again highly contested with both young and old paddlers pitting themselves against the forces of Mother Nature and pushing the limits of human endurance.

This year organizers had five divisions which ran in two separate heats. In the first heat of the morning, the under 16 Super Groms scrapped it out and after the ehukai had settled, it was Merrick Hemmings and Micah Pedersen who hit the beach in first and winning the coveted Glass Ball and first place trophies.

Finishing a strong second was the up and coming team of Kobey Damon and Mati Durkin followed closely by third place finishers kaikamahine Ellen White and Skye Eversole.

In the "Same Last Name" division age old rivalries and competitive juices were overflowing as the athletes lined on the beach for the start of this highly anticipated race. The formidable and reliable team of Trey Balding and Jimmy Boy Austin scratched their way to the win followed closely by Chuck and Robby Kelley in second and Aukina and Ariana Hunt in third.

The second heat of the day featured the Combined Age of 75 and Under and 75 Plus divisions. Clawing their way to the top of the podium for first place in the 75 and under (2nd overall) was the young and frothing team of Trey Balding and Tyler Jagers. Nipping at their heels and finishing in second was the highly competitive team of Hunter Pflueger and Tuarongo Cowan with the team of Johnny Ginella and Carter Mesker hitting the beach in third.

In the Combined Age 75 Plus division, the ever so reliable team of Heath "original scratcher" Hemmings and Pat Dolan smoked through the challenging course finishing first in their division and first overall.

It was amazing to see that after four laps and approximately three miles of racing in and out of the solid surf at the bowl, scratchers and rivals Pat Dolan and Trey Balding were bumping boards and elbows as they passed the windsock and Cline's stake dead even. Hitting the beach first, Pat Dolan won the foot race up the beach and through the finish line. This has to have been one of if not the most exciting finishes in modern Scratchfest history and will surely be the talk of the town and OCC for years to come.

Finishing a strong second in the division was the always consistent and highly professional team of Travis Grant and Dolan Eversole (third overall), followed



Heath Hemmings and Pat Dolan were first overall in the second heat.



Trey Balding and Tyler Jagers won the under 75 division.



Dolan Eversole and Travis Grant.



Kalani Schrader slowly pours a Budweiser in memory of Cline Mann to start the race. Paddlers go when the bottle is dry.

closely by the team of Scotty Shimada and Johan Loo for third.

It was good to see all the familiar faces again and to recognize and acknowledge the famous names and bloodlines of the participants. With this type of event and renewed interest from the Groms, we hope the sport of prone paddle boarding will thrive on while perpetuating the overall waterman and OCC lifestyle.

Big shout out and mahalo to all competitors, fans, parents, Laird Apparel, Surfline.com, OCC Beach Services, management, Shannon Pelkey, Peter and Mary Balding, Maile, Sophia and Charlotte Schrader for their time and efforts towards and support of this grass roots event.

Top finishers in each division as follows:

Super Groms

1. Micah Pedersen/Merrick Hemmings
2. Kobey Damon/Mati Durkin
3. Skye Eversole/Ellen White

Same Last Name

1. Trey Balding/Jimmy Austin
2. Chuck/Robby Kelley
3. Ariana/Aukina Hunt

Combined Age 75 & Under

1. Tyler Jaggars/Trey Balding (2nd overall)
2. Hunter Pflueger/Tuarongo Cowan
3. Carter Mesker/Johnny Ginella
4. James Stone/Brendon Bradley
5. Omar Takriti/Kelly Tam-sing
6. Aukina Hunt/Harrison Deisroth
7. Matt Mench/Cheyne Mench
8. Isabelle Berg/Aaron Wallen

Combined Age over 75

1. Heath Hemmings/Pat Dolan (1st overall)
2. Dolan Eversole/Travis Grant (3rd overall)
3. Scotty Shimada/Johan Loo
4. Pat Wong/Colleen Tessler
5. Greg Quinn/Blair Thorndike
6. Kaihe Chong/Jimmy Austin
7. Rollin Steele/Bill Pinkerton

Legends

1. Marc/Kisi Haine



Keeping track of the entries and scoring were Sophia, Charlotte and Maile Schrader.



Harrison Deisroth and Aukina Hunt.

OCC's Annual Club Luau
*A Night in
 Old Hawai'i*
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018
 VINTAGE ALOHA ATTIRE
 5:30PM PUPU · 6:00PM PA'INA