

# The 1974 Canoe Racing Season

By Jerry Ober

At about this time every year, many of our young — and not so young — enthusiastic members take on the arduous task of training and preparation for the annual summer outrigger canoe racing season. This is one of the few remaining true Hawaiian heritage sports and it shares with surfing as one of Hawaii's most popular sports.

The OCC over the years has always been a strong supporter and competitor in the canoe racing program. Our Club also holds significant records in Hawaiian canoe racing. We are, for instance, the present record holder in the annual Molokai-Oahu Canoe Race. The Club sponsors what is no doubt the most exciting spectator regatta of the season, the annual Walter J. Macfarlane regatta held July 4th in the surf off Waikiki Beach. The commitment to outrigger canoe racing at the Club is both traditional and serious.

Times and canoe racing, however, have gone through many changes in the past few years just as our landscape has. Not too many years ago there was one canoe racing association with perhaps 8 competing clubs and a total of ten events. Each club then had to consider training and working with at least 60 people; with alternates, perhaps 80 or at most 90. Then there were 5 regattas to a season. Now, there are two canoe racing associations, and the N.C.R.A. alone has 10 or more member clubs. There are now 20 events in a regatta. A club must now have at least 120 qualified paddlers and 30 alternates, or a total of 150 paddlers. This year there will be 8 regattas in all.

This brings us to the plight of the OCC this season. First, there's the matter of sheer numbers; some 150 people, all of whom must be bona fide members of the Club, to be eligible as paddlers. This year Mark Buck returns as head coach of the OCC canoeists. Mark brings with him an impressive record of dedication and performance in canoe racing. He was head coach several years ago and his own act will be a hard one to follow. His previous record was no less than

a clean sweep; in 1970 his crews won all 5 regattas.

In the past few years the quality of competition has improved greatly. There was a time when the season was primarily a duel between Outrigger and Waikiki Surf Club, two highly competitive and innovative clubs. The past several seasons have seen a shift away from the dominance of these two clubs, and the emergence of a new source of power; namely, Healani Canoe Club.

There is a reason for this, which goes far beyond training techniques and club spirit; it is numbers. A club must have paddlers, lots of them, to enter each and every event; and every event must be entered if there is to be a serious attempt at winning regattas. Numbers are Outrigger's biggest problem. Where do we get our paddlers? A local club, whose existence is solely for canoe racing, can draw from the community at large and need only require a nominal initiation fee for maintenance of its canoes and facilities. We at OCC are a large, sophisticated organization, where membership is costly and admission is involved. We cannot recruit paddlers just because we want to fill canoes. The total Club must be taken into consideration.

Within our membership we are quite fortunate, for what we may lack in numbers alone, we make up for in quality. Quality of staff and paddlers alike. Quality notwithstanding, we still can't expect to win regattas as in the old days, but must concentrate our efforts where we best can. Most of us feel that is in developing and working with the crews we have and in the process, developing the character and integrity of those paddlers.

Your coaching staff needs girls this year. There are two new categories for girls: girls 15 and under, and girls 17 and under. These are in addition to the existing novice, freshmen, junior, and senior girls and womens events. Also, we need 12-year-old boys. There are now two 12-year-old events, A and B. We have only enough for one entry.

# OCC Crews Win Five Events in Windward Regatta

By Jerry Ober

The Season's second regatta brought the much hoped for victories and all-around improved performances that were predicted following the first regatta only ten days before. The improvement was dramatic! From one first place at Makaha to five at Kailua Beach Park. Our overall team score position stayed the same simply because of man and woman-power shortages . . . OCC's own energy crisis. We had to scratch seven races without which, winning or placing high in a regatta is impossible.

The day was marred for OCC by the unfortunate cracking of the PAOA — the only canoe we brought to the regatta. Lanikai Canoe Club most generously loaned OCC its alternate boat and OCC was able to complete the regatta.

Interesting to note: the first two races run in Lanikai's MOKULUA by our girls 17 and boys 18 resulted in first places for OCC. Winning also in MOKULELE and MOKULUA were sophomore women and our senior men respectively.

Our first win of the day was the girls 15 in PAOA . . . the girls paddling a strong race. The re-emergence of the senior men into the winning circle was indeed welcome . . . these seniors paddled an excellent race and were in complete command although constantly pursued by Kailua. Race day produced fairly strong and steady trade winds and occasional cloudiness, but in general a pleasant day for racing and watching. Once again there was a large and welcome number of OCC members and friends at the regatta. The making of 5 first place finishes marks the first regatta in 4 years that we have enjoyed this much success.

The events, paddlers, and positions were as follows:

1. Boys 12 B — No Entry.
2. Boys A, 6th Place: 1. Scott McCormack; 2. Walter Brown; 3. Lance Cross; 4. Don Machado, 5. Bill Eggers, Jr.; 6. Chad Martin.
3. Women B Novice, 6th Place: 1. Jill Anderson; 2. Beth Currier; 3.

Mary Mikacs; 4. Kim Howard; 5. Pua Smith; 6. Leslie Martin.

4. Boys 13 and Under, 4th Place: 1. Bruce Black; 2. Nelson Richardson; 3. Winston Gamble; 4. Fred Noa, Jr.; 5. Bill Keller; 6. Jon Lauterbach.

5. Women A Novice, 2nd Place: 1. Stephany Sofos; 2. Sydnee Arth; 3. Suzanne Chuckovich; 4. Laurie Cundall; 5. Kisi Haine; 6. Allison Martin.

6. Men B Novice, 3rd Place: 1. Kim Woolaway; 2. Larry Langley; 3. Brandon Espedal; 4. Bill Bright; 5. Bob Kashare; 6. Chris Crabb.

7. Boys 14 and Under, 6th Place: 1. Marc Haine; 2. Robbie Brown; 3. Bill Harrison; 4. Mike McCormack; 5. Greg Graham; 6. Billy Berger.

8. Girls 15 and Under, 1st Place: 1. Robyn Rodby; 2. Mary Fox; 3. Lisa Livingston; 4. Malia Mullahey; 5. Diane Guild; 6. Tracy Phillips.

9. Men A Novice, 3rd Place: 1. Curt Franks; 2. Ted Crane; 3. Craig Emberson; 4. Bob Turran; 5. Jack Maguire; 6. Fred Swartz.

10. Boys 16 — No Entry.

11. Girls 17 and Under, 1st Place: 1. Julie Hendrickson; 2. Lynn Mason; 3. Eva Segovia; 4. Nina Rodrigues; 5. Tracy Haworth; 6. Charlee Martin.

12. Boys 18 and Under, 1st Place: 1. Walter Guild; 2. Robbie Muller; 3. Jim Foytich; 4. Jay West; 5. Rick Lemke; 6. Alan Rosehill.

13. Women Freshmen — No Entry.

14. Men Freshmen — No Entry.

15. Women Sophomore, 1st Place: 1. Kristy Muller; 2. Moira Scully; 3. Nanci Ballentyne; 4. Pam Crane; 5. Phyllis Swartz; 6. Heidi Hemmings.

16. Men Sophomore — No Entry.

17. Women Junior — No Entry.

18. Men Junior, 3rd Place: 1. Kimo Hugo; 2. Roger Cundall; 3. Tuck Siegfried; 4. Bill Burso; 5. Kent Giles; 6. Bruce Ames.

19. Women Senior — No Entry.

20. Senior Men, 1st Place: 1. Brant Ackerman; 2. Tom Connor; 3. Marshall Rosa; 4. Mark Buck; 5. Bill Mowat; 6. Mike Lemes.

## Outrigger Crews take 4th in Makaha Regatta

By Jerry Ober

The 1974 Outrigger canoe racing season got under way Sunday, June 2nd. The opener was also a first for the host Makaha Canoe Club. Also new for canoeing was the site, famous Makaha Beach, great for winter surf but placid and calm in the summer save for a few currents here and there.

For Outrigger Canoe Club, it wasn't really a day of firsts, although we did come up with one first place, that by the Women Sophomore crew. There were also several near firsts.

Like most season openers, technical errors plagued many of our new crews and some of the seasoned ones as well. Steering errors were most noticeable. But we believe, with this year's expanded schedule and more training, improvement will no doubt soon be coming, as races are now very closely scheduled. The overall ability and spirit of the Club paddlers is fine and the turn out of paddlers and spectators has been excellent.

The Club's racing equipment is in superb condition, thanks to the very active coaching staff under Mark Buck. Mark and his staff have spent many hours sanding and varnishing the canoes as well as making and repairing support equipment. Not only has the racing equipment been cared for, but the attentive and energetic Canoe Racing Committee has provided for creature comforts as well. The committee has provided a fine canvas sun shelter to protect the waiting paddlers from the sun. At the Makaha race site, it provided more protection from cool mauka liquid sunshine than from the expected rays.

The regatta tallies are as follows: Regatta winner with 78 points, Healani Canoe Club — they won 12 out of 20 events. Lanikai, 51; Hui Nalu, 31; Outrigger, 24; Waikiki Surf, 19; Makaha, 17; Leeward Kai 3.

Race by race run down as follows: Boys 12 and under took last place, so a little work is in order. 1. Scott McCormack, 2. Walter Brown, 3. Lance Cross, 4. Don Machado, 5. Bill Eggers, Jr., 6. Chad Martin.

Women Novice B — 4th Place  
1. Mary Mikacs, 2. Jill Anderson, 3.

Beth Currier, 4. Kim Howard, 5. Kisi Haine, 6. Leslie Martin.

Boys 13 and under — 3rd place.

1. Pat Ayau, 2. Bruce Black, 3. Winston Gample, 4. Fred Noa, Jr., 5. Greg Crane, 6. Jon Lauterbach.

Women Novice A — 3rd Place

1. Stephany Sofos, 2. Sydnee Arth, 3. Suzanne Chuckovich, 4. Laurie Cundall, 5. Kisi Haine — paddling two races in a row — 6. Allison Martin.

Men Novice B disqualified for hitting a marker.

1. Kim Woolaway, 2. Larry Langley, 3. Brandon Espedal, 4. Bill Bright, 5. Bob Kashare, 6. Chris Crabb.

Boys 14 and under — 4th place.

1. Jim Bugbee, 2. Marc Haine, 3. Aaron Kekoolani, 4. Robbie Brown, 5. Drea Kaaua, 6. Peter Balding, Jr.

Girls 15 and under — 3rd place.

1. Robyn Rodby, 2. Mary Fox, 3. Lisa Livingston, 4. Malia Mullahey, 5. Diane Guild, 6. Tracy Phillips.

Men Novice A — A good strong 2nd.

1. Curtis Franks, 2. Ted Crane, 3. Greg Sandler, 4. Bob Turran, 5. Jackie Maguire, 6. Fred Swartz.

Girls 17 and under — 3rd Place

1. Julie Hendrickson, 2. Lynn Mason, 3. Kris Muller, 4. Nina Rodrigues, 5. Tracy Haworth, 6. Charlee Martin.

Boys 18 and under — 3rd place.

1. Walter Guild, 2. Robbie Muller, 3. Bill Andrews, 4. Jay West, 5. Rick Lemke, 6. Alan Rosehill.

Women Sophomore — 1st Place —

A strong team, with veteran paddlers. Because of newly formed age group paddling for women, paddlers who had previously paddled in higher ranked races, were allowed to come back down in classification.

1. Kris Muller, 2. Moira Scully, 3. Nanci Ballentyne, 4. Pam Crane, 5. Phyllis Swartz, 6. Heidi Hemmings.

Men Sophomore — 5th Place.

1. Sam Kress, 2. Doug Bechert, 3. Mike Pietsch, 4. Jay Pease, 5. Dave Pietsch, 6. Kimo Austin.

Men Junior 3rd Place in a good strong race.

1. Tuck Siegfried, 2. Roger Cundall, 3. Hugh Foster, 4. Bill Burso, 5. Kent Giles, 6. Bruce Ames.

Men Senior — 3rd place.

1. Brant Ackerman, 2. Tom Conner, 3. Marshall Rosa, 4. Mark Buck, 5. Bill Mowat, 6. Mike Lemes.