

# Distance Season Starts with the Duke and the Dad Races

By Guy Wilding, Head Coach

## **Duke Kahanamoku Canoe Race August 21, 2016**

After the most successful regatta season since 2009 the open men were looking forward to the first race of the 2016 distance season. OCC fielded three open men's crews in this one - the *Manu Ula*, *Henry Keawe Ayau* and *Kapua* plus a 50s crew racing in the *Mamala*.

There were actually three separate starts in this race so it was never really clear for most crews where you were overall, even after you crossed the line. The *Henry Keawe Ayau* started in the first wave along with the 50s men, while the *Manu Ula* and *Kapua* crews started in the second wave. All crews raced hard from the start and it was soon obvious that the battle for top honors would be between Hui Nalu and our *Manu Ula* crew.

Hui Nalu took a slight lead into the first change but the boys from OCC were paddling well. As the race progressed towards Makapuu and down the wall toward Portlock, Hui Nalu slowly extended their lead, but the *Manu Ula* crew fought on strongly. Only Hui Nalu and one crew from the first wave start (Manu O Ke Kai) were still in front of the *Manu Ula* crew.

The boys chased down Manu and not long after passing them at Black Point caught a beautiful wave that they rode inside . . . unfortunately too far inside . . . as the next wave in the set cleaned the boys up. Only quick thinking from Karel Tresnak Jr. (in seat five) jumping out onto the 'iako prevented a huli.

However, the canoe was full of water . . . but at least the boys were still in the fight. They started to move slowly again as they tried to bail all the water out of the heavily weighed down canoe, but once out of the wave zone they were soon dry and going hard chasing down Manu O Ke Kai . . . again. They soon caught and passed Manu O Ke Kai (for the second time) and were second canoe across the finish line behind Hui Nalu.

Solid results from all crews. A good start to the distance season for OCC men.

## ***Manu Ula***

2nd Place Open, 3rd Place Overall

Time: 3:08:18

Crew: Victor Agostini-Bovino, Griffin Bolan, James Donovan, Jake Hamstra, Heneire Itchner, Sean Kaawa, Simeon Ke Paloma, Karel Tresnak, Ryan Woodward.

## ***Kapua***

7th Place Open, 9th Place Overall

Time: 3:15:04

Crew: Mike Beyer, Christian Bradley, Neale Hafner, Byron Ho, Deke Kilpatrick, Indar Lange, Charles Meyer, Max Solmsen, Robbie Solmsen.

## ***Henry Keawe Ayau***

20th Place Open, 28th Place Overall

Time: 3:40:42

Crew: Twain Newhart, Art Mallet, Jayson Whitman, Connor Grune, Wilson Lau, Riggs Silva, Sage Capone, Kyle Chang, Kea Hussey.

## ***Mamala***

2nd Place Masters 50, 32nd Place Overall

Crew: Ruben Cabaniero, John Claucherty, Al Darling, Jeff Davis, Mark Eliashof, Marc Haine, Rick Hobson, Leighton Miyachi, Gunner Schull.

## **Dad Center Memorial Race**

Perennial powerhouses Team Bradley and Waikiki Beach Girls have filled the top two placings in this race for the last three years while OCC women have not won the race since 2003. OCC girls were a close third last year in the Dad Center and were nipping on the heels of the top two clubs heading into the 2015 Na Wahine O Ke Kai.

Unfortunately the Na Wahine was cancelled last year due to adverse weather conditions. So this was the first opportunity for OCC girls to test themselves since last year's E Lau Hoe (third place behind Bradley and Beach Boys) and the girls were chomping at the bit.

They say paddling is cyclical, meaning that you have some good years and then you have some lean years then the good years will eventually return. The lean years are for various reasons including pregnancies, retirements, paddlers changing clubs, the time taken to develop novices into good open paddlers, coaching changes etc.

Well the cycle is well into the upswing for the OCC open girls as they continue to build towards this year's Na Wahine O Ke Kai. The girls have a strong mix of outstanding novice paddlers, very experienced paddlers and a sprinkling of youngsters coming through from OCCs junior ranks.

Team Bradley (an all-star team made up of girls from several of the Hawaiian islands) are testing some new blood this year, while Waikiki Beach Girls made some big personnel changes as they are missing several of their top girls for various reasons. But as they say, you can only race those that turn up.

Testing conditions greeted the girls on race day for this year's Dad Center. Powerful winds had whipped up the ocean and this would be a real challenge for all paddlers. From the start the OCC girls in the *Manu Ula* were strong and opened up a lead from Team Bradley, Lanikai, Hui Nalu, Kawaihae (Big Island) and WBB.

OCCs team of coaches had elected to race with nine paddlers instead of the normal 10 in the *Manu Ula* crew but OCC paddled strongly and maintained their lead until Portlock. The powerful Team Bradley passed OCC heading into Maunalua Bay but the OCC girls continued to paddle with a lot of heart and held off all other challengers to finish a highly creditable second behind Team Bradley. Hui Nalu was third with last year's winners Waikiki Beach Boys (girls) finishing in sixth position.

The girls in the *Kakina* paddled extremely well to finish 11th overall and win the Koa Division, while our 50s girls finished in 21st position overall and third in their division. Another great day for the OCC paddling program.

## ***Manu Ula***

2nd Place Open, 2nd Place Overall

Time: 3:15:19

Crew: Britta Bourne, Shannon O'Neil, Angie Dolan, Jennifer Fratzke, Natasha Haine, Amy Lawson-Woodward, Tracy Phillips, Kahala Schneider, Mary Smolenski.

## ***Kakina***

1st Place Koa Division, 11th Place Overall

Time: 3:35:04



The *Manu Ula* crew in the Dad Center were front, Natasha Haine, Britta Bourne, Angie Dolan. Back: Jennifer Fratzke, Tracy Phillips, Shannon O'Neill, Kahala Schneider, Amy Lawson, Mary Smolenski.



Winners of the Koa Division in the Dad Center were, front, Colleen Hall, Jennifer Raams, Paula Crabb, Jennifer Kilpatrick, Malia Boyd, Possie Badham. Back: Marie Martel, Hilary Denison, Maggie Parks. Missing: Karin Hansen Del Rey.



The Masters 50 Women finished third: Lisa Livingston, Tana Feeley, Laurie Lawson, Debi Ing, Mary Quinn, Wendy Wichman, Kim Heyer, Judy Miller, Genie Kincaid, Katy Bourne, Linda Fernandez, Joan Bennet.

Crew: Possie Badham, Malia Boyd, Paula Crabb, Hilary Denison, Colleen Hall, Karin Hansen del Rey, Jen Kilpatrick, Marie Martel, Maggie Parks, Jen Raams.

#### **Mamala**

3rd Place Masters 50, 20th Place Overall

Time: 3:47:21

Crew: Joan Bennet, Katy Bourne, Tana Feeley, Linda Fernandez, Kim Heyer, Debi Ing, Genie Kincaid, Laurie Lawson, Lisa Livingston, Judy Miller, Mary Quinn, Wendy Wichman.

#### **Dad Center Memorial Canoe Race**

August 28, 2016

Kailua Beach Park to OCC

Results

#### **Winners**

##### **Open Division**

Hawaiian Canoe Club - Team Bradley 3:12:27

Crew: Dane Ward, Lauren Spalding, Andrea Moller, Kaulu Luuwai, Kristin Foster, Noelani Auger, Cherisse Agorastos, Lori Nakamura, Nicole Pedersen, Coral Gonzales.

##### **Koa Division**

Outrigger Canoe Club 3:35.04 Kakina

Crew: Jennifer Kilpatrick, Paula Crabb, Colleen Hall, Shawn (Possie) Badham, Malia Boyd, Hilary Denison, Karin Del Rey, Marie Martel, Jennifer Raams, Margaret Parks.

##### **Unlimited Division**

Hui Nalu Canoe Club 3:40:10

Crew: Anuschka Faucci, Alena Yocum, Shelby Ho, Marie Allen, Tiffany Arapari, Gwenn Daley, Ciena Jadu, Maggie Pulver, Cherene Ching, Jessie Lathrop.

##### **Masters 40**

Hui Lanakila Canoe Club 3:44:44

Crew: Judy Decorte, Marj Miramontes, Kristi Lowry, Janet Yocum, Tammy Morck, Ilima Kim, Yukashi Smith, Ray Kaneshiro, Sherry Hayashi, Brea Caley.

#### **Masters 50**

Hui Nalu Canoe Club 3:38:41

Crew: Terry Malterre, Denise Darval-Chang, Carol Jaxon, Heather Cottrell, Laurie Komeiji, Polly Ai, Lorey Bode, Celest Aoyama, Lisa Ah Sing, Mindy Clark, Brigitta Osterhold, Joanne Vierra.

#### **Masters 55**

Kailua Canoe Club 3:37:19

Crew: Carleen Ornellas, Cathy Bender, Cynthia Cobb-Adams, Debbie Clark, Heidi Hansen-Smith, Jennifer Fisher, Katy Otsuji, Lois Hewlett, Sandra Kalama, Torrey Goodman, Kathy Erwin, Jane McKee.

#### **Junior**

Outrigger Canoe Club 4:05:50

Crew: Kiana Sandvold, Kealoha Scullion, Kailee Graff, Malia Gacutan, Micaela Kauhane, Cynthia Konickson, Emma Humphries, Makena Somerset, GG Thomas, Nicole Yarbrough, Makana Shipman, Kaya Lee.

For complete results of the Dad

Center Race go to: <http://www.outriggercanoeclubsports.com/ocean-sports/canoe-racing/dad-center-race/results-by-year/2016-dad-center-results/>

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# Junior 'Riggers Crew Wins Dad Center

By Mark Sandvold



Showing off the new Dad Center Junior Trophy are, front, Kailee Graff and Kealoha Scullion. Back, CC Konickson, Kiana Sandvold, Kaya Lee, Makena Somerset, GG Thomas, Malia Gacutan (holding trophy), Emma Humphries, Micaela Kauhane, Yael Van Delden. Not pictured: Makana Shipman.



Celebrating their victory are, left to right, Malia Gacutan (steering), Kiana Sandvold (standing), Yael Van Delden, Kailee Graf, Micaela Kauhane, Makana Shipman.

Since being asked by OCC to coach the Girls 12 paddling crew seven years ago I have always had the dream of seeing my young daughter Kiana (who was 10 at the time) and her friends move up one day to race long distance and see a whole new side of canoe racing.

Two weeks before this year's Dad Center Race, Paula Crabb asked me to step up and get a crew together. She said we needed 12 girls to enter. I put the word out and little by little we were able to put together a great crew of mostly 16 and 17 year olds who were going to race against other crews with 18 year olds.

Paula mentioned that Jay Dowsett had donated a beautiful new koa perpetual trophy for the Junior Division and how great it would be for our girls to be first to have their names on it.

We trained with the open women for two weeks where we learned to do open ocean changes and worked on being stable in the open ocean.

On August 28, in what has to be one of the roughest races in years, our girls from OCC beat the field and won the Dad Center Junior Trophy with a finishing time of 4:05!

I am so proud of them as they faced challenge after challenge with one huli and some seasickness but they didn't give up and held on to beat last year's winner Lanikai by ten boat lengths.

The girls and their parents gathered together at the start of the race in Kailua to say a prayer for a safe day. Conditions were some of the roughest we've seen in years. Trades were blowing at 15-25 knots with 8-10-foot seas. Going around Makapuu was probably the hardest part of the entire race.

Coach Andrew Glatzel was in charge of the course and guided the girls perfectly around Makapuu and Diamond Head as they passed several crews. I had back surgery recently so I was unable to join them on the escort boat and followed the race by land. Geoff Graf was our escort boat driver and Meleana Carr Wolf assisted the girls with water and snacks on the changes.

Yes it was a crazy day and a huge accomplishment for our girls to not only finish but to win! It was the first Junior crew from OCC to have entered this race!

My daughter Kiana said she's hooked and asked, "Dad, why didn't we do this sooner". Micaela Kauhane said it was the biggest accomplishment in her life so far. All the girls really appreciated all the support from the open and masters women as they cheered them on at the finish.

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