

Outrigger Paddlers Down Under For Hamilton Cup 1996



Outrigger's Hamilton Island team included Todd Bradley, Todd Hart, Chris Kincaid, Courtney Seto, Walter Guild and Marc Haine. By Genie Kincaid

Renown for its boisterous festivities fueled by Aussie beer, the Hamilton Cup is nevertheless touted as Australia's premier international outrigger canoe racing competition. Held June 14-17, the \$55,000 prize pool also made this 13th running of the multi-event challenge too enticing to miss.

Needless to say, some of our senior men paddlers just had to be there. Cheers, mate! Todd Bradley, Walter Guild, Marc Haine, Todd Hart, Chris Kincaid and Courtney Seto, joined by three paddlers from Kailua and Lanikai, raced as Team Hawaii Masters, entering all three team events at the masters level.

These events included the 1,000 meter sprint, the 16.1 kilometer Ironman, and the 42.2 kilometer marathon. Team Hawaii Masters won the silver in the sprints, and struck gold in the Ironman and marathon. So as not to cast any doubt that they merited their victory beers, they set a new course record in the marathon. My shout!

Walter Guild further distinguished himself by also entering, and winning, the 500 meter and 9.6 kilometer one-person canoe events. That's a five-medal haul in four days, against solid, proven competition. Not since 1993, when Kala Judd scored four gold medals in Hamilton, has an Outrigger paddler won as many medals. G'day, mate!

Participation in an international event of this stature is simply not possible without the generous support of key sponsors. Mahalo nui to Hawaiian Style, Nike, ZRE Paddles and CanoeSports for their much appreciated sponsorship. ☺