

Club Surfing Contest Was *Memorable*

By Rob Farrow

Photo by Bob Thornburg



Fred Hemmings Jr., Jimmy Austin and Jake Mizuno during finals of canoe surfing contest.

Summer is coming to an end, but not without giving us many memorable moments in the surf. We had the conclusion of the Hawaii Amateur Surfing Association's 97-98 year with the state championships at Ala Moana Bowls, the beginning of the Hawaii Longboard Federation series, and the annual Outrigger Surf Contest.

The Outrigger Summer Surf contest took place on June 28th and was met by a wonderful 4-6 foot swell at Old Man Bowl. The contest showcased some of the best surfers/watermen in the Club and probably the world.

Surfing legend Fred Hemmings Jr. was there competing in the canoe surfing division with his crew consisting of Jimmy Austin and new member (and father) Jake Mizuno. They were up against steersman Brant Ackerman who was joined by Walter Guild and the very flexible Clayton "Chee Man" Chee, who by the way, was doing every trick in the book with heightened enthusiasm.

The following heat had Marc Haine and his crew of Karl "K4" Heyer and Billy Foytich going against Rob Farrow and his crew of Jeff Zimmerman which looked to be a mismatch but turned into an exciting heat when Rob Farrow turned into a monster at the Bowl and went end over end.

Needless to say, it brought the beach to its feet and received the best wipe out of the day scoring perfect "10s" from every judge.

Look for photos in the upcoming issue of Pacific Paddler Magazine. They were on hand to cover the event. When the dust settled, Brant Ackerman came out victorious with his crew due in part to "Chee Man" and his amazing bag of

acrobatic maneuvers.

In the surfing division many of the same names were there doing their thing on surfboards.

In the men's division there were many standouts including Jeff Piper who reintroduced us to classic style by doing incredible head stands and sweeping sole arches.

Ralph Gray, Blair Norris, Kalani Schrader and Andrew Glatzel were all standouts riding the waves of the Bowl with power and style. Unfortunately the waves were not in their favor and did not allow them to advance to the final round of competition.

The final heat of the men's division was 30 minutes of really good surfing with surfers on a variety of equipment with many different strategies. Karl Heyer showed all of us he can still surf and that his experience with the Bowl is awesome. He had the first wave of the final and probably one of the best of the contest. He laid down the gauntlet and never looked back.

Right on his tail was Rob Farrow, fresh from Costa Rica and the HLF circuit. He used his competitive skills and wave knowledge to make the most of the waves that remained. Matt Guard and Marc Haine were busy battling it out with each other in a very close split decision.

Paki Vaughan was riding every ounce of energy out of each wave he caught. In the end, however, it was a repeat of last year with waterman extraordinaire Buzzy Kerbox showing how it's done.

The junior division was a mixture of short board hot-dog surfing and long boarding. Some of

the competitors chose the short board strategy, but in the end, they were dominated by the ability of the sole long boarder to catch the waves and win the division. That lucky surfer was Jimmy Austin.

The beginning of day was greeted by Jimmy claiming he was going to win, and he did. The other competitors that did very well and made to the final round of competition were Andrew Estes, 2nd; Tucker Siegfried, 3rd, and Wakey Mist, 4th

Congratulation to all of you guys and remember to practice hard. Next year you might have to surf against men.

I'd like to be able to report on the women's division but unfortunately we were unable to convince any women that this is actually a FUN and worthy event and that their participation is necessary. We'll wrap the koa plaques and awards in paper and save them for a year when they decide to come and compete.

Keep an eye open for an early fall surf movie/dinner night at the Club. It will include a vintage surf movie with all the fixings, an awesome meal consisting of purely surf food (big lau lau, rice, poi, fish) and a bunch of raunchy aloha shirts. Be there. ☺

The final results were:

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| 1. Buzzy Kerbox | 4. Marc Haine (tie) |
| 2. Karl Heyer IV | 4. Matt Guard (tie) |
| 3. Rob Farrow | 6. Paki Vaughan |

Surf Team News

By Rob Farrow

The Outrigger Surf Team was hard at work in July bringing home trophies and points in two different competitions while at the same time going after a state championship title in three divisions.

First off, we finished the HASA season with a late surge qualifying several of our surfers for the state championships and a shot at the U.S. Amateur Championships in California. Most notable, was Robin Johnston's finishing first in the men's overall points for the season by consistently placing in the top of his division in every event. Congratulation!

Jimmy Austin and Marc Rocheleau both

qualified for states by finishing in the top six of the Junior Men's Division and in Junior Long boarding. Congratulation as well. Marc Rocheleau finished fifth in the state championships in the Junior Long Boarding Division as well.

In the Hawaiian Long Board Federation after two events, Jimmy Austin is rated in the top 20 for the Junior Division and has sworn to be in the top 10 by the end of the series. Good Luck!

Kimo Austin is also competing in the Senior Grand Masters division. He received a third in the first event and is poised to be in the top of the pack when it's over in October at Makaha. In the highly contested Men's Open Division, after two events, Rob Farrow is sitting

in sixth overall, but with the Ala Moana "Toes on the Bowl" up next, look for him to jump out ahead.

The bowls event is also a two star ASP event and part of the world qualifying series. The points from this event help to qualify surfers for the Oxbow world championships in October at Makaha.

The Outrigger Canoe Club has a lot to offer every member and even more if you give a little of yourself. Give yourself a reason to truly enjoy all of life's simple pleasures. Jump in the ocean next time you're at the Club on one of the Club boards and paddle out and catch a wave. It will change your whole perspective. ☺