



*An OCC surfer skims across a 25 foot breaker at Makaha.*

## **MAKAHA SURF SEASON APPROACHING**

It's still a month away, but you can feel the big surf season at Makaha approaching.

Boards are disappearing from their lockers for touch up jobs at home or in the club shop.

Records of big surf in past years are thumbed over daily, the surf watching fraternity is out in full force.

November to them is like Christmas early—and every day. It means breakers up to 25 and 30 feet crashing on the leeward side of the island in quiet Makaha.

Winter surf! It rises comparatively close to the Makaha shoreline, then crashes into a half moon shaped cove that provides a natural grandstand for sun shaded spectators, a "natural" for the international championships.

Already surfers have met to put their stamp of approval on the entry fee for the sixth annual championships at Makaha November 22-23 and 29-30.

More than 150 of the top surfers from Hawaii, California and assorted surf capitals are entered annually in the "big surf's" peak.

And the Outrigger is expected to enter its usual raft of outstanding performers including perennial men's open champion, Rabbit Kekei, Black-out Whaley and Gilly Halpern, Bill Danford, and Tim Guard in men's junior events. Cynthia Hemmings is a yearly standout in the women's division.

Other events listed for the meet are mixed tandem riding, body surfing, and mat surf riding.

Youngsters ruefully watch their peers from the shoreline. But surfing has not excluded them. The champions they watch were learning to handle boards at ages 6 to 9.

George Downing, Outrigger canoe and surf coach, and perhaps Hawaii's most outstanding surfer of modern times, took a break between sanding and surfacing boards to unravel a schooling program for the clubs eager-to-learn youngsters.

"I'm going to take the kids out to Makaha and Haleiwa and all of the other big surf spots on weekend trips. It's better to take them out there and show them, you know, than to have them try for themselves.

"We'll show them how, point out the danger spots and different types of waves," Downing said. He smiled:

"You know, if you don't, they're going to go right out and try for themselves—without supervision.

"It's better this way—surfing's for everybody, especially kids."

## NEW SURF COMMITTEE

A five man committee of Outrigger members has been formed to establish and oversee the mechanics of the forthcoming international surfing championships at Makaha.

The birth of the committee—the first of its kind—came out of a proposal by the Waikiki Surf Club, annual sponsors of the surfing championships.

Named to the committee were Ron Sorrell, Johnny McMahon, George Downing, Doug Forbes, and Wally Forsieth.



*Surfing enthusiasts will see performers like Ed "Blackout" Whaley and George Downing of the Outrigger in action at the Sixth Annual International Surfing Championships at Makaha, November 22-23 and 29-30. George, who is holder of numerous American, Hawaiian and world titles, was recently named to the supervisory committee for the event. Past visitors to the Makaha event will remember "Blackouts" form and grace in being a perennial contender.*