

OCC Junior Volleyball Boys 17

By Jane Carney

The temperature wasn't the only thing that was hot in Phoenix over the Fourth of July. So was the Outrigger Volleyball Boys 17s team, taking fifth place in the Gold Bracket of the Open Division of the USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships held there from July 4-9. Taking further honors was outside hitter Max deWolff, who was named as a member of the All Tournament Team.

The 17's played solid throughout the four-day tournament. Day one was the longest, with the team winning three out of seven games, putting them in a tie for second in their division. They won four out of six games on day two to remain in the Gold Bracket, and needed to win only one game on day three, which they did, to get into the Gold finals on points.

Day four was the final day of the tournament with single elimination play. Outrigger 17's were eliminated in the first match, ended up placing fifth overall in the Open Gold bracket. The 17's Open Gold Championship was won by Long Beach against Club Florida.

Players representing OCC on the Boys 17's team were: Ian Alexander, Patrick Alexander, Pono Brown, Sean Carney, Max deWolff, John Freese, Nate Jenkins, Zander Schneider, Brett Service, Bronson Soares, and Ryan Zabriskie. The team was coached by Charlie Jenkins and Jimmy Kalaukoa, who was unable to make the trip. Thanks also to Mark and Jane Service who helped with chaperoning duties.

Congratulations to the players and coaches for a great tournament and for doing a fine job in representing Outrigger Canoe Club in the JO's. Thank you to OCC for providing such a great opportunity for these young athletes to compete with the best in the country a memorable experience for all!