

PADDLING RACES OUT THIS YEAR

Difficulty In Raising Money Has Forced Kona to Drop Plans for Races

Kona's paddlers, invincible in the past four years of competition, will be stopped this year. No, they won't be stopped by other territorial paddlers, but by money or rather the lack of it.

Difficulty in raising enough money for the annual classic since 1933 has forced Kona to drop plans for the fifth annual canoe races, it was reported yesterday by Julian Yates who is in town for the board meeting.

Yates reported that the Kona Civic club recently held a meeting at which time it was decided not to hold any paddling races in Kona this year. Inability to raise the needed funds was given as the reason.

Efforts to revive the ancient Hawaiian sport have proven successful and much interest has been shown in the sport in the past four years. It was planned to put on the races on a permanent annual basis.

Kona's crews need at least \$4000 to put on the races, it was reported. Supporters of the clubs chipped in and raised some \$1500, while the County of Hawaii contributed \$500 and various other sources raised the remainder to help out the clubs in the other years. If the crews go to Honolulu for the races, it would cost some five to six hundred dollars more, it was reported.

The ancient Hawaiian classic was first revived in 1933 at Kealahou bay. It was again held in Kona, at Napoopoo in 1934. The races were held in Kona waters again in 1935, and in 1936 were held in Honolulu.

In four years of competition, the Kona crews have won three regattas, dropping only the first to the Outrigger Canoe club of Honolulu. Kailua won in 1934, while Yates' Honaunau crews smashed through to victories in 1935 and 1936.