

The Kamaaina Beachcombers Hui is to be congratulated for reviving the ancient sport of canoe paddling. Outrigger canoe paddling races were the vogue in the days of Hawaiian monarchy, and the earliest organized regatta was held in 1859 in honor of the Prince of Hawaii, son of King Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma.

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The outstanding events of recent years were held in famed Keala-kekua Bay off Kona on the Island of Hawaii. The last canoe paddling regatta here was held in 1938 on the Ala Wai, with only the Outriggers and Hui Nalus entering crews. The famous Big Island crews made their last appearance in Honolulu in 1936. They entered seven races and won all of them, with "Honaunao" gliding through the waters off Honolulu harbor for most of the honors. The "Honaunao" was built especially for racing and will be used in today's regatta by the Kona crews.

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Canoe racing is a part of Hawaii and should be kept alive through the years. The Kamaaina Beachcombers Hui sponsored it during its final years. In 1939 canoe racing was included as part of the Pacific Aquatic Carnival on the Ala Moana channel.

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Aquatic fans who take in today's revival will see a great sport and exciting races. And there'll be many oldtimers on hand to see that it's run in the tradition of old Hawaii.