



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOKAHI CANOE CLUB LOOKING FOR ITS FIRST WIN THIS SEASON

Lokahi to host regatta this weekend at Ke`ehi Lagoon

HONOLULU (June 3, 2002) ³/₄ Once again, it appears that perennial champs Lokahi Canoe Club and Kane`ohe Canoe Club are battling for the Hui Wa`a Championship title this year. Lokahi largely dominated the 90s, with Kane`ohe winning the title just once. Recent years have seen a close competition between the two clubs, with the individual regatta titles changing hands each week. This year Kane`ohe has won the first 2 regattas, with 7 more to go.

While Kane`ohe and Lokahi have held true to form early in the 2002 Na `Ohana O Na Hui Wa`a canoe regatta season, finishing first and second respectively in the past two regattas, Manu O Ke Kai from the North Shore, and Na Keiki O Ka Mo`i (the pride of the Leeward Coast), are rapidly closing the gap. With an impressive 50 points, and its second consecutive third place finish, Manu was only seven points behind Lokahi this past weekend at the first ever Waikiki Yacht Club regatta at Ma`ili Beach Park. Na Keiki O Ka Mo`i earned 49 points and was just one point away from a division trophy.

Manu and Ka Mo`i are hot on the heels of Kane`ohe and Lokahi. Look for upsets in the coming weeks as races head to Manu`s home waters at Haleiwa on Father`s Day, June 16, and again at Ma`ili Beach Park on June 30. The parity between clubs seems to be close at hand as each club earns key points with its “ace” crews, but relies on its supporting cast to round out the scoring each weekend. The one point brought in by the non-medalling fourth place crews is becoming a key factor to overall club success.

Koa Kai appears dominant in the single A (smaller club) division easily outpacing second place Windward Kai 33-23 despite 3 untimely hulis (capsized crews) early during the regatta. A first place finish by Kalihi-Kai in the master women race, the second to the last race of the day, put them one point ahead of the Waikiki Beach Boys, 17-16.

Join Hui Wa`a and Lokahi this week at Ke`ehi Lagoon Park this Sunday, June 9. Races will begin at 8:30am.

Check out the latest Hui Wa`a information at www.huiwaa.com

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