



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***HUI WA`A CONCLUDES SEASON WITH STRONG PARTICIPATION IN
THE NA WAHINE O KE KAI AND MOLOKA`I HOE RACES***

HONOLULU (October 17, 2002) — Hui Wa`a salutes its members who participated in the women's Na Wahine O Ke Kai and men's Moloka`i Hoe races. With the conclusion of the Moloka`i to O`ahu long distance races, the six-person outrigger canoe-paddling season has officially concluded for 2002. Soon paddlers will take to the beach for the one and two-person season, invitational 6-person "fun" races, the intermediate and high school paddling season, and other off-season cross training endeavors.

Hui Wa`a was well represented at the women's Na Wahine O Ke Kai as it entered thirteen crews, representing seven clubs. Perennial regatta women's powerhouse Lokahi had the best showing of any Hui Wa`a club, finishing 11th overall out of a total 54 entries.

At the men's Moloka`i Hoe, Manu O Ke Kai finished 33rd overall (27th in the open glass division), out of a total 104 entries to post the best finish of any Hui Wa`a crew. Close behind in 40th and 41st places, were the men from Lokahi and the Waikiki Beach Boys Canoe Club. Sixteen crews from nine clubs ably represented Hui Wa`a.

Hui Wa`a enters the winter months hard at work planning for the 2003 season. This year's Na `Ohana O Na Hui Wa`a Council of Clubs Annual Meeting is to be held in Las Vegas from November 7th through the 11th. New officers will be elected, and any changes to the Race Rules will also be decided. On December 7th, Hui Wa`a clubs will convene with club representatives from around the state at the Annual HCRA Meeting to be held on O`ahu (time and place to be determined). Hui Wa`a board members and committee chairs will then meet in mid-December to plan the upcoming year. By January '03, clubs and their respective representatives will hopefully return to business, rested and with renewed energy after the holiday season.

Most clubs will begin organized practices starting in March. Please contact clubs directly for their practice schedules (see club contact information at <http://www.huiwaa.com>). The first Hui Wa`a Long Distance Race will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2003. Mark your calendars as this race signals the start of the new 2003 season for all clubs on O`ahu.

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

###