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HUI WA'A NAMED HOST OF 2003 HCRA STATE RACE
Masters ages amended at HCRA annual meeting

(HONOLULU) February 5, 2003 — The Annual HCRA meeting held on Saturday, December 7th at the Waikiki Elks Club, saw a near record number of HCRA race rules proposals to be voted upon. While many changes were designed to further clarify existing practices, a bold move to amend the ages for master paddlers was proposed, and passed.

The Master's, also known as Junior Master, age minimum was increased from 35 to 40 years old, and the Senior Master's age minimum was raised from 45 to 50 years old. But, the Golden Master's proposal to raise the age minimum 1 year to a maximum of 60 years old by 2008, was defeated and its age minimum will remain at 55 years old. These age amendments apply to the men, women, and mixed categories for these races.

Hui Wa'a has subsequently amended its age minimums to parallel the HCRA changes. Senior Master Mix, a race not held at HCRA states, will remain at 45 in Hui Wa'a.

Also changed was the manner in which lanes are selected at the state race. Each association will have one opportunity at one of the first six pills pulled for each race, ensuring each association no worse than the sixth lane choice.

With the return of the HCRA state championship race to O'ahu this year, HCRA Race Commissioner Hannie Anderson announced that Hui Wa'a will host the 2003 HCRA State Championship (in previous years, Hui Wa'a and OHCRA have co-hosted the race). Hui Wa'a is pleased to have this honor to celebrate its 30th anniversary. We expect all of our member clubs to play a key role in our sponsorship of the state race.

All 66 clubs of HCRA were in attendance at the meeting, and we had a rare chance to join in fellowship with our friends from the neighbor islands over a post-meeting lunch.

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