



Hawaii Island Paddlesports Association (HIPA) is pleased to announce the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Moku O Keawe Challenge sponsored by the WEGO Foundation and Big Island Junior Va'a to be run March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at 'Anaeho'omalulu Bay. Registration for this race will be opening soon. This purpose of this document is to explain the format and rules of the race.

**PONO:** The race organizers have worked hard to develop a challenging race that they hope will be an annual event for many years to come at scenic 'Anaeho'omalulu Bay. They ask paddlers kōkua to follow the rules to ensure that the land owners will allow the race in future years. Racers and spectators are expected to conduct themselves with aloha, good sportsmanship, and fair play. This means observance of race rules as well as generally accepted rules of behavior and all governmental laws. This is an alcohol-free event.

**PARKING, LAUNCHING, AND OBSERVING:** The land owners have given their permission to hold the race under the consideration that the racers and spectators do not hamper activities of the public and customers of the business that operate at 'Anaeho'omalulu Bay. There will be special parking lots setup for the race. Signs will direct participants to event parking and transportation will be provided by carts and canoe trailers to the Waikoloa Canoe Club. **DO NOT** drive down to the turn-around to unload your boat. **DO NOT** park at the shopping center, the Lava Lava Club, or at the public beach parking. Space will be designated to set-up canoes, launch, and observe the race start and finish. Please stay within these designated areas.

**CANOES:** This race is limited to OC-1, OC-2, and V-1 canoes. Each racer must use the same canoe with the same number in each stage of the race. Numbers must be on the right side of the canoe. If you do not register a number, a temporary number will be provided to you at check-in.

**FORMAT AND SCORING:** The Moku O Keawe consists of three races in stages held over two days. Stage I is a 2-mile sprint, Stage II is a 6-mile course, and Stage III is either a 12-mile long course or a 6-mile short course for paddlers that cannot go 12 miles. Each racer will receive a score for each race that is equal to their overall place among finishers. The sum of the three scores will be used to determine the winners. The racer with the lowest sum of the three races will be the winner. The regular HIPA race divisions will be used for this race and the winner of each division will be the racer with the lowest combined score from that division.

**SCHEDULE:****DAY 1 – MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>**

7 am – 8 am Check-in at Waikoloa Canoe Club, no check-in allowed after 8 am, you will receive your Stage I heat assignment at check-in

**STAGE I – 2-mile sprint race with an interval beach start**

8:30 am race meeting

9:00 am 1<sup>st</sup> heat starts

9:01 am 2<sup>nd</sup> heat starts

9:03 am 3<sup>rd</sup> heat starts

Each successive heat begins in one-minute intervals

**STAGE II – 6-mile race with a mass start**

10 am (or as soon as possible after Stage I) race meeting

10:15 am beach start

After the Race, no gathering or meals after Day 1 races.

**DAY 2 – MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>**

7 am – 8 am Check-in at Waikoloa Canoe Club, no check-in allowed after 8 am.

8:15 am race meeting

**STAGE III**

12-mile long course race with a mass start, this race will start at one of three locations: Puakō Boat Launch, Kīholo Bay, or 'Anaeho'omalu Bay depending on conditions. The race will finish at 'Anaeho'omalu Bay.

Start time depends on start location

6-mile short course race with a mass beach start, this race will start and finish at 'Aneho'omalu Bay.

Start time simultaneously with the long course

After the Race, there will be a pa'aina, meal, and awards.

**REGISTRATION:** All racers must register on-line by 9 am **Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. No registrations will be allowed the day of the race. Registration will open soon. To register go to the [UP COMING RACES](#) tab at the HIPA.ClubExpress.com website.

**COST:** The cost for the Moku O Keawe race is \$75 for adult paddlers and \$20 for juniors (18 and younger). All proceeds go to the Big Island Junior Va'a program.

**RACE DIRECTOR:** Charles Becerra, charlesbecerra@yahoo.com