



**2026**

# QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI CANOE RACE

WORLD'S LARGEST OUTRIGGER CANOE RACE

PRESENTED BY KAI 'ŌPUA CANOE CLUB



## QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI CANOE RACE

KAILUA-KONA-HAWAII

**Thursday, Sept. 3 – Monday, Sept. 7**

# RACE INFORMATION



**FOR  
Coaches, Crews,  
Officials and  
Escort Boat Captains**



## HYDRATION

**Due to abnormally high air and water temperatures this year, it is important for all race participants to hydrate properly before and during all race activities.**

## C O N T E N T S

|                                                                    |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Coach's Check List.....                                            | 1       |
| Ho'okipa Center   Waivers   Coaches' & Steerspersons' Meeting..... | 2       |
| Decals.....                                                        | 3       |
| Race Schedule.....                                                 | 4 & 5   |
| Canoe & Trailer Storage   Canoe Transportation.....                | 6       |
| Canoe Eligibility   Canoe & Crew Classification.....               | 7       |
| Escort Boats   Live Feed.....                                      | 8 & 9   |
| Start & Finish Procedures.....                                     | 10 & 11 |
| Race Activities.....                                               | 12 & 13 |
| Award Presentations.....                                           | 13      |
| Canoes & Rigging Equipment.....                                    | 14      |
| Security   Water Stations.....                                     | 15      |
| Maps of Race Sites at Honaunau and Kailua Pier.....                | 16 & 17 |
| Te Rangi Aniwaniwa Performance at Paddlers Reception.....          | 18      |
| Talk Story — Sharing Mo'olelo with Hawai'i Public Radio.....       | 18      |
| The Queen   Hulihe'e Palace   Recognition .....                    | 19      |
| Emergency Procedures.....                                          | 20      |
| Emergency Contacts   Medical Staff.....                            | 21      |

## Mahalo Volunteers!

There are many Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club members and community volunteers that dedicate their time to help produce the Queen Lili'uokalani Canoe Race.

Five days of racing competition, cultural events, planned and spontaneous moments of fun, reuniting friends and making new ones, has grown to be a true festival.

The Queen's Race is forever grateful for all of its volunteers.

***This race couldn't happen without you!***

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI, GO TO  
[www.qlcanoerace.com/queen-liliuokalani.asp](http://www.qlcanoerace.com/queen-liliuokalani.asp)**

# COACH'S CHECK LIST

- ☐ FEES PAID  
ALL FEES MUST BE PAID IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RACE.
- ☐ ONLINE WAIVERS signed and **submitted online** and packets received
- ☐ OFFICIAL RACE NUMBERS on the canoe(s) (See page 3)
- ☐ LIVE FEED links for Saturday's Races (See page 8)
- ☐ Blessing at 6:00 a.m. Saturday that will last approximately five minutes.
- ☐ Race Start (See pages 10 & 11)
- ☐ Maps (See pages 16 & 17)
- ☐ What you need to know about Honaunau (See pages 16 & 18)
- ☐ Emergencies (See Emergency Procedures Pages 20 & 21)

## \*\*\* NEW THIS YEAR \*\*\*

Please read the details about the **ONLINE WAIVERS**, and the services offered at the **HO'OKIPA CENTER** – formerly know as the Registration Room.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Race Director: Mike Atwood

Race Commissioner: Nicki Lacey-Enos

President Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club: Kris Hazard

Medical Team Directors: Louise Morris, Dr. Ted Leon & Carl Adams

Canoe Match-up Coordinators: Palani Greenwell

Double-Hull Coordinator: Kalei Pasciuta

**\*\*\*THERE WILL BE A PA SYSTEM FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS BEFORE RACES\*\*\***

# HO'OKIPA CENTER

*Please join us at the **Ho'okipa Center**, formerly known as the Registration Room, conveniently located in the Courtyard Marriott King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel. The Ho'okipa Center will be your one-stop location for crew check-in, decal and packet pick-up, bus tickets, Lu'au tickets and general event information. We look forward to welcoming you!*

**Thursday, September 3 — 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**Friday, September 4 — 8:30 am to 5:00 pm**

**Saturday, September 5 — 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm** (last opportunity to pick up race decals)

**ONLINE REGISTRATION CLOSING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AT MIDNIGHT**

## WAIVERS

- 1. Online Waivers.** Waivers are now **100% online!** Each paddler must complete and sign their **own individual waiver** through our registration portal. A completed waiver is required to receive your crew race packet and canoe number decal. **Need help?** Please see the **Ho'okipa Center staff** or email **QLraceinfo@gmail.com**
- 2. NO PADDLERS MAY PARTICIPATE WITHOUT HAVING SIGNED WAIVER FORMS!**
- 3. I.D. Required** if entering age division.
- 4. Iron Crews:** Paddlers must be at least 15 years old. Paddlers must have reached the age of their division by race day.
- 5. Non-Iron:** Nine (9) paddlers, two (2) helpers and one (1) coach. If the coach is also a paddler, his/her name must appear on the list as a paddler. Paddlers must have reached the age of their division by race day.
- 6. PLEASE NOTE – 9-Person Category:**  
The Captain of your escort boat must also sign a Waiver.

## PADDLERS' REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO RACES

- 1.** All paddlers must be 15 years old, or older, by September 5, 2026. Any paddler who was 18 as of January 1, 2026 is eligible for the Junior race.
- 2.** All paddlers must have signed waivers and be registered in order to participate. Paddlers in age-group divisions must submit identification with registration.
- 3. Double-Hull Races:** Clubs may join together or have unregistered paddlers participating as members of their crew, provided all have signed Waivers.

## COACHES' / STEERSPERSONS' MEETING

A coaches' AND steerspersons' briefing will be held at 5:00 pm on Friday, September 4, at the hotel's Makai Lawn.

# DECALS – OFFICIAL RACE NUMBER DECALS

## SATURDAY

1. The Wahine, Mix 50+ and Mix 60+ decal is to be placed on left side of the canoe in the front (bow). The Kane, Mix Open and Mix 40+ number is to be placed on the left side of the canoe in the back (stern).
2. All numbers are to be placed on the dry canoe prior to the race. Place a strip of duct-tape on the leading edge of each decal.
3. If a change has been made and a different crew is in the canoe, it is the responsibility of the captain to inform the timers at the finish line. **DO NOT CHANGE NUMBERS ON CANOES.**
4. All decals for Saturday's races are to be removed after both races. Do not remove any numbers until after both races.

## SUNDAY

**OC6 TEENS** – Any paddler 14 as of September 6, 2026 and older up to 18, is eligible. Place Official Race Number Decal on the **SIDE, (NOT ON THE TOP) OF THE CANOE**. Teen girls number on the left front (bow); teen boys number on the left back (stern) of the canoe; Teen mix number on the left front (bow). Make sure your race decals are pulled off immediately after your race.

**OC1 & OC2** – Place Official Race Number Decal on the **SIDE, (NOT ON THE TOP) OF THE CANOE**. Wahine number on the left front (bow); kane number on the left back (stern) of the canoe;

**OC-2 MIX** on left front. (See 3, 4 and 5 above.)

## DOUBLE-HULL

Place Official Race Numbers on left hull, left side--wahine in front (bow), kane in back (stern), Mix left front (bow). (See 2, 3 and 4 above.)

## MONDAY

**KUPUNA CLASSIC** – Place the decal on the **LEFT** side of the canoe **IN THE FRONT (BOW)**.

# RACE SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

### Hulakai OC4 (4 person canoes) Sprint Relay Race

**12:00 noon** – Race meeting on the Kailua Pier

**1:00 pm** – Heats begin

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

### Wa'a Kaukahi – 18 miles

**6:00 am** Blessing of canoes and paddlers at Kamakahonu

### Wahine & Mix 50+ & Mix 60+ Races – Kailua Bay to Honaunau Bay

**7:30 am** – Wahine Iron crews start, Mix 50+ and 60+ Iron start

**7:35 am** – Wahine Unlimited Canoes start

**7:40 am** – Wahine OC-9 (Escorted Divisions)

### Kane Races & Mix Open & Mix 40+ – Honaunau Bay to Kailua Bay

(start times subject to change)

**11:45 am** – Kane Iron crews and Mix Open & Mix 40+ start

**11:50 am** – Kane Unlimited Canoes start

**11:55 am** – Kane OC-9 – Escorted Division start

~~~~~

## BUS SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

**FOR RACE PARTICIPANTS AND SUPPORTERS – \$10.00/TICKET EACH WAY**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 ONLY**

**\*\*\* Race participants and supporters are REQUIRED to pre-register and pre-pay to use the shuttle bus \*\*\* Shuttle tickets are non-refundable\*\*\***

**8:30 am** – Depart from the front of the King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort to Pu'uhonua o Honaunau.

**11:15 am** – Depart from Pu'uhonua o Honaunau. Start boarding at 11:00 am, return to the Kailua Pier.

**YOU MUST BE PRESENT AND WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW ID IN ORDER TO PICK-UP THE SHUTTLE TICKETS.  
LIMIT 6 PER PERSON EACH WAY.**

**SHUTTLE TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PICK UP IN THE HO'OKIPA CENTER ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY.**

~~~~~

# RACE SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

### **Wa'a Kaulua** - 5 miles

All races start at Kailua Pier — Canoes turn left on outside orange buoy and left turn again on inside orange buoy. — Finish at Kailua Pier

**7:00 am** — Teen Girls / Boys / Mixed - OC-6

**8:45 am** — Kane / Teen Boys, OC-1, OC-2

**9:00 am** — Mixed Double-Hull 40+

**9:45 am** — Wahine Double Hull

**10:45 am** — Kane Double-Hull

**11:00 am** — Wahine / Teen Girls - OC-1, OC-2, Mixed

**12:00 Noon** — Mixed Double-Hull Open

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

### **Kupuna Classic** — 7 miles

Wahine/Kane Divisions: 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+ and 70+  
6-person crew — three women, three men

Race starts at Kailua Pier - Turn at Official Boat at Kamoia Point - Finish at Kailua Pier

**7:00 am** — Race Meeting & Canoe Assignments

**8:30 am** — Race start — 50+ and 55+, 60+, 65+ and 70+

Snacks and Awards immediately following under the event tent on Kailua Pier

## **CANOE / TRAILER STORAGE**

- 1. Canoes only. No trailers** may be parked on Kailua Pier in preparation for the Races. All canoes are to be placed on the end and makai side of the Kailua Pier.
  - 2.** All canoes transported from Kawaihae will be placed on Kailua Pier.
  - 3.** Trailers are to be taken to the Old Airport Park Halau area for parking.
  - 4.** Canoes and trailers may be parked overnight at Honaunau for the Kane Race Saturday. Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club will not be responsible for any damages. All trailers must be parked on the upper road. No parking of any vehicles or trailers along the road past the boat ramp.
- \* We will not accept canoes arriving on Friday, Sept. 4 at Kawaihae Harbor \***

## **CANOE LOANS**

Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club is not responsible for canoes loaned by other clubs to paddling crews. Please handle the canoes at all times with great care and respect.

### **OC1 AND OC2**

Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club does not coordinate the rentals of OC1 and OC2 canoes. Try logging onto the race blog for requesting canoe availability.

## **PIER PARKING**

**Only authorized vehicles, with the required PIER PARKING PASS displayed on their dashboard, will be allowed through the Kailua Pier gate for parking. Those authorized vehicles will only be permitted to park in their designated parking area on the pier. NO EXCEPTIONS.**



## **CANOE ELIGIBILITY**

**1.** Canoes approved for racing by the various canoe racing associations throughout the state shall be declared eligible provided the following items are submitted to the race officials, if needed:

- a.** Certification of weight of canoes (400# minimum).  
(Copies of certification used by other associations and certified by their Race Director will be accepted.)
- b.** Certification that the canoe is eligible and approved for racing in the corresponding club's association.

## **CANOE CLASSIFICATION**

Classes: Koa, Non-Koa, Unlimited

## **PADDLE REQUIREMENTS**

For Saturday race, paddles found on HCRA Conforming Paddles list will be allowed. Refer to [hcrapaddler.com](http://hcrapaddler.com) for rule.

A 10 minute penalty will be added to crews not using conforming paddles. No paddle restrictions on Thursday, Sunday and Monday races.

## **CREWS**

- 1.** Iron Crews: Six (6) paddlers. No relief paddlers and no escort boats.
- 2.** Mix Iron Crews: At least two (2), no more than three (3) men.
- 3.** Non-Iron: Nine (9) paddlers, two (2) helpers and one (1) coach. If the coach is also a paddler, his/her name must appear on the list as a paddler.
- 4.** OC1 and OC2: No escort boats.
- 5.** Double Hull: Twelve (12) paddlers, no changes, no escort boats.  
Three Divisions: All women, All men, Mixed crew (no more than 6 men)
- 6.** Teens Single Hull:  
Three Divisions —
  - 14, 15, 16, 18 & under boys
  - 14, 15, 16, 18 & under girls
  - Mix 18 & under

\* Any paddler 14 as of September 6, 2025 and older up to 18 \*
- 7.** Thursday: Eight (8) paddlers. Divisions — Women, Men and Mix
- 8.** Kupuna Classic: Six (6) paddlers. Each Mix crew has Three (3) Women and Three (3) Men. No escort boats.

## **RACE CONDUCT WARNING**

**There is zero tolerance for foul language or swearing towards race officials, water safety and volunteers.  
Any overt disrespect shown will result in disqualification.**

## **LIVE FEED – SATURDAY RACES**

Races will be live on Facebook during Saturday races!

Be sure to follow us

**[facebook.com/QueenLiliuokalaniCanoeRaces](https://facebook.com/QueenLiliuokalaniCanoeRaces)**

**[facebook.com/oceanpaddlertv](https://facebook.com/oceanpaddlertv)**

**[YouTube.com/@oceanpaddlertv1](https://YouTube.com/@oceanpaddlertv1)**

**adventure Zone Sports Network on ROKU / Apple TV / Amazon Fire**

Our Live Feed team will begin streaming approximately 7:20 am, covering the start of the Wahine, and Mix 50+ and Mix 60+ divisions. The team will follow the south bound race and be at the finish line at Honaunau.

There will be a break in the feed, approximately 30 minutes, and then back online just prior to the start of the Kane, Mix Open and Mix 40+ division start.

Coverage of the north bound race live streams all the way back to Kailua Bay for the finish. Share with your paddling 'Ohana so they can follow their friends and family **LIVE!**

## **ESCORT BOATS – FINISH LINE RESTRICTIONS**

1. Wahine Race – An official boat flying a green flag, positioned approximately 1/2 mile from the Honaunau finish line will signify the turn-off point for escort boats.
2. Kane Race – An official boat flying a green flag, positioned approximately 1/2 mile from the Kailua finish line will signify the turn-off point for escort boats.
3. Escort boats will NOT be allowed to return to the Kailua Pier to off-load until AFTER completion of the race.

## **INSURANCE - GENERAL LIABILITY**

1. All Escort / Official Boat Owners / Operators must carry a policy of general liability insurance.

# **RULES FOR ESCORT BOATS**

- 1.** Each escort boat captain must sign an online waiver and turn it in to officials before the start of the race in which he/she is participating.
- 2.** Escort boats may follow their canoes once the Race has started, ensuring ZERO interference and maintaining a safe distance from other canoes.
- 3.** A Radio Announcement by the Official Starting Boat will be the signal to the escort boats that they may proceed for the first crew change.
- 4.** Each escort boat will fly a flag indicating they are escorting a crew.

**AN ANNOUNCEMENT OVER VHF 72 FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES AFTER THE START OF THE RACE WILL BE THE SIGNAL FOR THE FIRST CHANGE.**

- 4.** The bow of the escort boat must remain BEHIND THE CANOE unless the boat is dropping off paddlers to make a change.
- 5.** No deliberate interference of another canoe by an escort boat will be allowed. Disqualification of crews due to violations of these Rules will be at the discretion of Race Officials.
- 6.** Escort boats will not be permitted to launch from the Kailua Pier boat ramp. Due to the congestion and lack of parking on the Pier, escort boats must launch from an alternative ramp, i.e., Honokohau Harbor or Keauhou Bay. Personnel may be picked up from the Kailua Pier, no earlier than 7:00 am.
- 7.** Emergency Procedures have been established (See attached: Page 10) and should be read thoroughly before the start of the race.
- 8.** The following radio frequency channels will be used:

**COMMUNICATIONS: VHF 72**

**EMERGENCIES ONLY: VHF 16**

## **RACE START PROCEDURE – THURSDAY**

### **Hulakai OC4 (4 person canoes) Sprint Relay Race**

1. Horn start. Instructions given at the race meeting.

## **RACE START PROCEDURE – SATURDAY**

1. The races will start on time.
2. A yellow flag raised by the starter boat will give the signal that the race will start in five (5) minutes.
3. Canoes will line up on the starting line and must be BEHIND official boats. Any canoe in front of the Starting Line will be penalized.
4. The lowering of the red flag and a HORN will signal the start of the race.
5. There will be a five (5) minute penalty for crews in violation of the starting procedures.

## **RACE FINISH PROCEDURE - SATURDAY**

1. Wahine, Mix 50+ and Mix 60+ Wa'a Kaukahi Race will finish between the Finish Line boat and an orange buoy positioned within Honaunau Bay.
2. The early canoe arrivals may maneuver to the public boat ramp, drop off paddlers and wait for the Kane and Mix Open crews to take over the canoes. All other wahine crew steerspersons will drop off their paddlers near "Two-step" so they can swim to the designated area where helpers will assist them on shore. The steersperson will circle back out into the Honaunau Bay and wait for the kane paddling crew to arrive and circle back for them. The beach area of the Park is closed due to archaeological discoveries.
3. Kane and Mix Open Wa'a Kaukahi Race will finish between two orange buoys by the Kailua Pier. After finishing, all canoes will make a RIGHT turn to avoid congestion in the race finish area.

## **RACE START PROCEDURE – SUNDAY**

OC1 & OC2, Double Hull and Teen Races – Same as Saturday.

## **RACE FINISH - SUNDAY**

1. All races Sunday finish between two orange buoys by the Kailua Pier.
2. They will then make a RIGHT turn to prevent congestion at the finish line.
3. Canoes may return to the beach area when it is safe to cross over.
4. Please encourage paddlers / steersmen to be alert as there will be heavy canoe traffic around the finish line and pier.

## **RACE START PROCEDURE - Monday**

1. Canoes line up between buoy just off the south end of the Kailua Pier and official boat, facing south.
4. The lowering of the red flag and a HORN will signal the start of the race.
5. There will be a five (5) minute penalty for crews in violation of the starting procedures.

## **OFFICIALS**

1. Mike Atwood is the Race Director.
2. An official stand and P/A System will be available prior to the start of the races on Saturday and Sunday mornings for announcements and last minute details.
3. An official stand and P/A System will be at Honaunau Beach prior to the start of the kane race to assist in locating your officials, escort boat, etc.

# RACE ACTIVITIES

## INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE & PADDLERS RECEPTION

**Thursday – 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

Paddlers from around the world, are invited to attend this evening function at the **Makaeo County Pavilion** at the Old Airport. We invite all of our visiting paddlers to share the culture of their wa'a 'ohana. This year's reception features a performance of Māori Waka Haka Kura Group – Te Rangi Aniwaniwa! There is ample parking at the Makaeoa County Pavilion.

## QUEEN'S RACE EXPO

**Friday – 9:00 am – 12:00 noon • Kailua Pier Event Tent**

Stop by and interact with non-profit partners as they present their significant contributions to our local community on land and sea. **FREE!**

## ROYAL SPLASHFEST

**Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

This competition will be in the style of Lele Pahu – plunging feet first with a great splash (cannonball). Registered participants may enter as a solo splasher or as a team of six. Solo Splashers must be registered as a Queen's Race participant, or racing in OC1, OC2, and/or OC4. Team entries must have at least one splasher that is a Queen's Race participant. They may be joined by friends and family to make a team of 6. Medals and awards for those who make the biggest splash!

## TALK STORY – SHARING MO'OLELO

**Friday – 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Hawai'i Public Radio** hosts an hour of *Sharing Mo'olelo* with 5 featured storytellers. Join us, with host **Naka Nathaniel**, as stories weave together the fabric of our island's identity – honoring the past, sharing the present, and shaping the future. **FREE!**



# **RACE ACTIVITIES**

## **BLESSING AT OPENING OF SATURDAY RACES**

### **Saturday – 6:00 am**

On the beach fronting the Kamakahou Bay. All participants are encouraged to be there for this special Hawaiian ceremony.

## **ARTS & CRAFTS AND FOOD BOOTHS**

Saturday and Sunday there will be local vendors featuring arts & crafts from local artisans located in the cul de sac under the banyan tree, next to the pier entrance; as well as across the street from the hotel lobby. There will also be a food booth at the pier entrance on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

## **TORCHLIGHT PARADE**

### **Saturday – 7:00 pm**

Participants meet at Hale Halawai County Pavilion. Starting at 7:00 pm the parade winds its way down Ali'i Drive to the Kailua Pier. Battery operated torches will be available, and feel free to dress up your crew in any other non-flammable lighting.

## **AWARD PRESENTATIONS**

### **SATURDAY AWARD PRESENTATIONS – Makai Lawn - 3:30 pm**

The presentation of awards for Saturday's races will take place at the Makai Lawn, makai of King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort after the finish of the Kane Race.

### **SUNDAY AWARD PRESENTATIONS & LUAU AT MAKAEAO EVENTS PAVILION – 2:00 pm**

The presentation of awards for Sunday's Double Hull, OC6 teen, OC1 and OC2 races will take place during the luau at the Makaeo Events Pavilion (Old Airport). Wrist bands will be provided to all participants and officials at the time of registration and will be required for admission to the lūau. Additional luau tickets for relatives and friends will be available for purchase at the Race Registration desk and at the door for \$25.

### **KUPUNA CLASSIC & AWARD PRESENTATIONS – Kailua Pier Event Tent**

The presentation of awards for the Kupuna Classic will take place under the green tent on the Kailua Pier at the conclusion of the race back to Kailua Bay. Medals are awarded after the race with snacks and coffee for the race participants,

# PU'UHONUA O HONAUNAU NATIONAL PARK

1. Saturday's races impact heavily on this very historical park so we ask all paddlers, families and friends to please respect the area.
2. Clubs who have only men crews may leave their canoes overnight at Honaunau Bay, but not in the Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Park cove. Canoes may be brought there after 12:00 noon on Friday. However, it will mean someone should stay with the canoes overnight.
3. Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club will not be responsible for any damages to canoes or equipment.
4. If you do stay overnight, preparation and eating of food should be done there at the bay. Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Park does not permit camping or open fires in the park.
5. Please remind all paddlers, families and friends that the wall fronting the park is part of the park's archeological/cultural landscape; climbing, placing towels or sitting on the wall is prohibited.
6. The National Park is closed to smoking, beach chairs, tents, mats, towels, beach umbrellas, coolers, picnicking and pets.
7. Avoid stepping on coral.
8. Please help us to keep the bacteria levels low in Honaunau Bay. See map on page 16 for port-a-potty locations.



Scan to learn more about  
the land and community  
at Honaunau.

## CANOES & RIGGING EQUIPMENT

**BAILERS:** All crews are responsible for providing their own bailers.

**RIGGING:** All crews are responsible for providing their own rigging line and/or quick straps. Quick straps will on sale in the Logo Shop — \$80 for a set of 4.

**4-PERSON CANOES:** Sponsor of the Thursday relay, Hulakai, will provide canoes to the registered crews.

## DOUBLE-HULL EQUIPMENT AND INFORMATION

1. Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club will provide two 4" x 4" lengths of wood. If you are rigging your own canoes, please use your own quick straps. If you are rigging Kai 'Ōpua canoes, Kai 'Ōpua will provide the quick straps.

2. Clubs may combine paddlers to form 12-person crews.

## OC-1 AND OC-2

Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club does not coordinate the rentals of OC-1 and OC-2 canoes.



## SECURITY

1. There will be professional security guards at Kailua Bay watching over the canoes at night.
2. There will be off-duty police:
  - a) At the entrance to the cul de sac by the pier (Friday – Sunday);
  - b) At the Torchlight Parade, Saturday Awards, Sunday Awards and Luau; and
  - c) Assisting with traffic at Pu'uhonua o Honaunau National Park.

## TIMERS

JTL Timers, a professional organization that does the timing for numerous other races, will be in charge of all timing.

## MERCHANDISE SHOP

1. The Queen's Race Merchandise Shop is located in the King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort, across from the Billfish Poolside Bar.
2. Hours the shop will be open: Thursday (10 am to 6 pm), Friday (10 am to 8 pm), Saturday (10 am to 6 pm) and Sunday (8 am to 12 noon).
3. T-Shirts and merchandise, especially designed for this race, will be for sale in the Merchandise Shop.

## PHOTOGRAPHER: Adventure Lens NZ

[andythompsonphotographynz.co.nz](http://andythompsonphotographynz.co.nz)

To view and download 2026 Queen's Race photos for free, scan:  
password is **2026QLCanoeRace**



## BROADCAST OF THE QUEEN'S RACE

The Queen Lili'uokalani Races will air on Ocean Paddler TV. For air dates, email [info@oceanpaddler.tv](mailto:info@oceanpaddler.tv)

## BRING YOUR REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLE

We are limiting the use of plastic water bottles impacting our environment. Bring your own bottle and look for the refillable water stations available on the Kailua Pier giving simple access to clean filtered water for all paddlers.

***Be a Part of the Kai 'Ōpua Team!***

**JOIN US MONDAY MORNING (SEPT. 7) TO HELP LOAD  
CANOES THAT RETURN TO THEIR OUTER ISLAND HOMES.**

**COME TO THE KAILUA PIER,  
WE'LL BE STARTING AS EARLY AS 6:30 AM.**

The finish line for the women and the starting line for the men will be at **Hōnaunau**, a native hawaiian place of great cultural significance. It is a great honor that the communities and families of Hōnaunau continue to support the Queen's Race. We ask as you enter this area please park only in designated areas and walk in reverence to the history of this place and the community that calls Hōnaunau their home. Take a moment before or after your race to make sure no trash is left around you. Use the staging areas and be mindful of private property. If you see someone of the Hōnaunau community we encourage you to express your gratitude. *Mahalo for helping to ensure the future of this race.*



Please scan the QR code to see the letter in regards to protecting and respecting our land and community at Hōnaunau.







# INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE & PADDLER'S RECEPTION

PRESENTED BY KAI'ŌPUA CANOE CLUB

*For all of our visiting paddlers and their 'ohana!*

**Thursday, Sept. 3  
6:00 – 8:00 pm**



*A performance not to be missed!*

**TE RANGI ANIWANIWA**

Mahalo nui Ku'ahane Lee for organizing the beautiful Maori Waka Haka Kura Group — from the far north of Aotearoa.



The evening starts with Hawaiian style artist, Reginald Davis

**NEW LOCATION  
MAKAO COUNTY  
PAVILION  
SAME AS SUNDAY LUAU  
LOTS OF PARKING**

**HEAVY PU PUS • LOTS OF DOOR PRIZES**



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

## HOW TO VIEW MARINE WILDLIFE IN HAWAII RESPONSIBLY

Sea turtles, monk seals, dolphins and whales are wild animals and protected under state and federal laws. Never approach, touch, chase or feed them.

### RECOMMENDED VIEWING DISTANCES

Sea Turtles — 10 feet

Monk Seals — 50 feet

Hawaiian Monk Seal Moms & Pups — 150 feet

Small Whales & Dolphins — 50 yards

Large Whales — 100 yards

### REQUIRED VIEWING DISTANCES

Hawaiian Spinner Dolphins — 50 yards

Humpback Whales — 100 yards

If you see a sick, injured, stranded, or dead marine mammal (seals/dolphins/whales) or sea turtle, immediately contact the closest stranding network. In Hawaii, call the statewide

NOAA Marine Wildlife Hotline: (888) 256-9840.

Report illegal or suspicious activity to (800) 853-1964, (808) 643-DLNR (3567), or the DLNRTip App. Email detailed photos and videos to [respectwildlife@noaa.gov](mailto:respectwildlife@noaa.gov).



# Talk Story— SHARING MO'OLELO



**Presented by Hawai'i Public Radio**



**Friday, September 4 • 4:00 – 5:00 pm**

**King Kamehameha Kona Beach Resort – Makai Lawn**

*Join host Naka Nathaniel and our guest storytellers for an hour of sharing personal stories — honoring the past, sharing our present and shaping the future — one story at a time.*



Kamao Kalama



Manu Powers



Mike Nakachi



Harlan Halkyard



Tiaaki Pirini

**FREE!**



## A Race Named For A Queen

50 years ago Kai 'Ōpua Canoe Club organizers began formulating and planning for a long distance canoe race that could serve as a warm up to other established long distance canoe races, including the iconic Moloka'i Hoe between Moloka'i and Oahu . They knew the timing would serve as the race foundation.

What early race organizers didn't realize, is that fifty years later, the Queen Lili'uokalani Canoe Race would be iconic as well and recognized as the largest long distance canoe race in the world.

As summer comes to a close across Hawaii, the canoe regatta season ends and paddlers transition to a long distance racing season. The original race organizers General Chairman Louis Kahanamoku and Race Secretary Mary Jane Kahanamoku knew that in order for the race to be sustainable, it would need to fit into the early long distance racing season to accommodate other races.

The first weekend in September 1972 was the Labor Day holiday but more importantly, it was the birthday of Hawaii's last reigning monarch Queen Lili'uokalani.

The first Queen Lili'uokalani Canoe Race took place on September 2, 1972 honoring and in celebration of Hawaii's beloved Queen.

### Hawaii's Beloved Queen Lili'uokalani

Born in 1838 as Lydia Lili'u Loloku Walania Wewehi Kamaka'eha, she was groomed as a young queen in stature and knowledge. By the time she was a young adult, Lili'uokalani was an accomplished scholar, musician, and talented composer. Many of Hawaii's much loved mele (songs) were penned by Hawaii's queen. In her lifetime, Lili'uokalani composed more than 150 songs, including her most famous piece, "Aloha 'Oe."

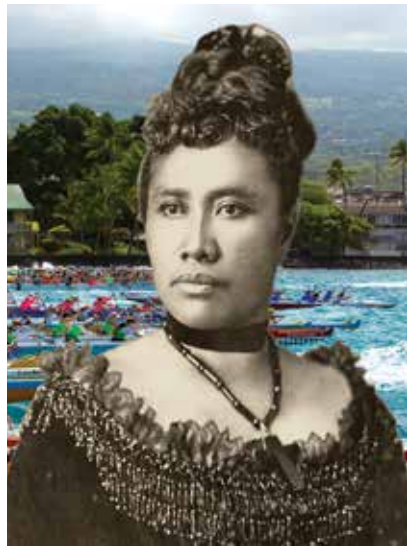
Her accession to the throne of Hawai'i began when her brother King Kalākaua was elected by the Hawaiian Legislature to the throne in 1874. At which time of King Kalākaua's coronation, he named his brother William Pitt Leleiohoku as heir to the throne. Unfortunately, Leleiohoku died in 1877. Princess Lydia Kamaka'eha was named heir apparent the next day and received the title Lili'uokalani. King Kalākaua ruled the Hawaiian Kingdom until his death in 1891. It was then that Lili'uokalani assumed the throne.

Just a short time later, her reign was cut short in 1893 as the monarchy was overthrown by a group of local businessmen with assistance of the U.S. Marines. To avoid bloodshed, Queen Lili'uokalani yielded control of the monarchy. Lili'uokalani was imprisoned in 1895 and held under house arrest at 'Iolani Palace for eight months. During her time of captivity, she translated the Kumulipo, the Hawaiian creation chant into English.

When she was finally released from imprisonment Queen Lili'uokalani immediately sought to reinstate her monarchy with United States President Grover Cleveland. She was not successful

Queen Lili'uokalani lived out her life in peace, and in 1909 she established her Trust Estate for the purpose of: *"All the property of the Trust Estate ... shall be used by the Trustees for the benefit of orphan and other destitute children in the Hawaiian Islands, the preference given to Hawaiian children of pure or part-aboriginal blood."*

Queen Lili'uokalani passed away in 1917 at the age of 79 and was laid to rest in the Royal Mausoleum at Mauna 'Ala on the island of Oahu.



### Hulihe'e Palace

*Historic vacation home for Hawaiian royalty in the heart of Historic Kailua Village (Kailua-Kona)*

Travel back to the days of the Hawaiian monarchy at Hulihe'e Palace, located right on Ali'i Drive in the heart of Historic Kailua Village (Kailua-Kona). Once a summer vacation home for Hawaiian royalty built in 1838, today Hulihe'e Palace is a museum showcasing Victorian artifacts from the era of King Kalākaua and Queen Kapi'olani.

The Palace features beautiful koa wood furniture, ornaments and artifacts from Hawai'i's royal past. In fact, this entire area of Kailua-Kona town has great historical significance with Moku'aikaua Church (Hawai'i's earliest Christian Church built in 1820) right across the street and Ahu'ena Heiau (the last royal residence of King Kamehameha I) visible right across the Kailua Pier.

For more information: [daughtersofhawaii.org/hulihee-palace/](http://daughtersofhawaii.org/hulihee-palace/)

# **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

## **REPORTING OF ACCIDENTS**

All clubs will be responsible for the reporting of all accidents in the following manner:

1. The seriousness of injury to a paddler, or escort boat occupant, should be determined by a doctor as to whether emergency help should be called.
2. In the absence of a doctor, the nurse, the coach or his representative and/or escort boat captain will determine whether emergency help is needed.

## **PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING ACCIDENTS**

1. Radio message must be relayed to the Official Medical Boat via the Emergency VHF Channel 72.
2. In the case of extreme accident, contact the U.S. Coast Guard, Honolulu Group via VHF Channel 16.
3. In the event that radio contact cannot be made, a flare gun can be used in the following manner:
  - a. Point the flare gun skyward and fire three (3) flares.
  - b. Use large arm motions to nearby boats, waving the arms overhead.
4. Immediately upon making radio contact or sighting of flares, an Official Boat should locate and go to the vessel having difficulty.
5. The Official Boat should make certain that the Official Medical Boat is aware of the problem and assist in locating the vessel having difficulty.
6. A determination should be made as to which land pick-up point is closest to the vessel having difficulty.
  - a. If it is a medical emergency, pick-up points for an injured or ill party will be Kailua Pier, Keauhou Bay or Honaunau Bay.
  - b. Notification for ambulance assistance made by the Race Director or designee.
7. The following information shall be given upon radio contact:
  - a. Name of Canoe, color and Official Race Numbers on canoe;
  - b. Name of Vessel's operator;
  - c. Approximate location;
  - d. Extent of problem (i.e., medical, mechanical). Describe clearly. Give name of individual if medical emergency.
  - e. Nearest recognizable landmark or satellite fix of longitude/latitude.
8. As required by State Law, a "Boating Accident" form must be completed by the vessel operator within 48 hours of the accident. This is required if the accident results in:
  - a. Loss of life or the disappearance of any person;
  - b. Injury causing any person to require medical treatment beyond first aid;
  - c. Actual damage to any vessel or to any other property in excess of \$200.

### **HYDRATION**

**Due to abnormally high air and water temperatures this year, it is important for all race participants to hydrate properly before and during all race activities.**

## **MEDICAL EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**

Race Director — Mike Atwood.....808-937-3255

Medical Directors — Dr. Ted Leon.....808-358-7071

Carl Adams.....972-415-2233

Louise Morris.....808-937-1793

## **MEDICAL TEAM**

**Medical crews are on official boats to respond to medical emergencies.**

**Medical staff available shore side at Honaunau Bay on Saturday, September 5.**

**Medical staff available at Kailua Pier under the green tent.**

**Police/Fire: Call 911**

**Refund Policy: No refunds will be given if the event is cancelled due to a natural disaster, extreme weather or for any other safety reason.**

# SPONSORS OF THE 52nd QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI OUTRIGGER CANOE RACES

PRESENTED BY



SUPPORTED BY



Greenwell  
'Ohana



KAI'ŌPUA CANOE CLUB · ESTABLISHED 1929 · KAIOPUA.ORG



#queensrace

QLCanoeRace.com

