

# Keauhou Canoe Club

## Board Minutes February 13, 2026



**Date:** 2/13/2026

**Time:** 9:00 AM —11:00 AM

**Location:** West Hawai'i Civic Center [74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway](#)  
Building B, Second floor conference room

### CALL TO ORDER

President Bill Armer called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board noted the passing of former Keauhou member Christa Jacobsen.

The Board was informed that paddler Mike Malterre experienced a medical emergency while paddling and was transported to the hospital, then moved to Hilo.

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS JANUARY BOARD MEETING—Cat Mikkelsen

Minutes of the January Board Meeting were approved

### TREASURER'S REPORT— Sandy Branch

Sandy Branch reported that the club received approximately \$2,700 in donations during the past month. The club also contributed \$5,000 toward current projects.

### MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT—Stacey Wood

Stacey Wood reported that the club currently has approximately 496 members.

Some members, particularly Canadians, are experiencing payment issues through PayPal and American Express.

Stacey is working with Ingrid, Race Secretary, on HCRA registration and waivers.

Stacey is talking with highly qualified expert Keauhou members who might be interested in conducting paddling demonstrations. There is an idea that orientation may include a paddle around the bay.

### COMMUNICATIONS REPORT—Cat Mikkelsen

Cat Mikkelsen reported that:

- The club newsletter will be released soon.
- Website updates are underway.

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- A press release and newspaper advertisement were created for the Mixer Event and Keiki/Youth registration.
- A media planning meeting will be scheduled.
- The club needs a volunteer to manage Instagram.

Cindy Armer is preparing approximately 90 donor thank-you letters.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Racing Reports-Vern Bieraugel

Athletic Director Vern Bieraugel reported on the conclusion of the High School racing season and the support that Keauhou Canoe Club gave to the Konawaena High School paddling team. The use of Club grounds by the High School program went well and was a success. The Club received a thank you from the High School head coach for the support during the High School season.

#### Canoe Status- Vern

Six canoes are currently being re-rigged.

The Gemini Twin double hull is just back from refurbish and paint.

One Bradley Lightning will remain on the beach for IVF practice, Kai 'Ili 'Ili 'Nehe

We rigged Konawaena canoe with the High School owned custom Ama and Iako

#### Coaches

Additional coaching support is needed and recruitment of coaches will continue. The current list was distributed with changes anticipated to that list.

A motion was approved to allow the coaching team to pursue paddling education programs and coaching training opportunities.

There is an upcoming MOH Meeting 4/4 for all coaches and officials

There is an upcoming MOH weighing of canoes on Saturday April 11.

#### Ku'upio Race on 3/7

Because many paddlers may attend IVF qualifiers, the Board discussed race staffing and food planning. L&L Catering may be used depending on participant numbers. Chris will be the Race Director.

Safety coverage for races will include:

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- Double hull canoe
- Two support boats
- HIPA jet ski

Additional logistical needs discussed:

- Medal distribution
- Race manager assignment
- Cooking support for race events

### **Kauikeaouli Race, possibly on 3/15**

Kauikeaouli is a recreational race hosted by Keauhou. We are considering doing it as an internal race, and putting it on Sunday, so that some of our paddlers can participate. This will be an entire club event.

### **Racer Get to Know the Coaches Mixer February 18, 4-6 PM**

### **Registration for Keiki and Youth March 8**

### **Race Free Weekend July 4**

There is no event on July 4 because Hilo cannot be scheduled.

## **Halau and Grounds**

### **Halau Safety and Security- Dave and Vern**

Dave and Vern reported ongoing vandalism and theft issues affecting club equipment, including damage to the canoe trailer and theft of lighting and tie-downs.

Possible security responses discussed included:

- Installing solar security cameras or wildlife cameras
- Locking the gate
  - We have permission from Kamehameha schools to lock the gate.
  - Perhaps lock the outside gate
  - Perhaps put in a new gate by the monkeypod tree
- Coordinating with neighboring businesses
  - Spoke with Seaquest
- Putting our trailer where we keep the van — getting on their waitlist
- Establishing a neighborhood watch

We need to write up what we want Kamehameha Schools to do. An ad hoc security committee was formed consisting of Vern, Kelly, and Dave.

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### Events

Ingrid is the new co-chair of Events.

#### Paddle Against Cancer Status March 1- Ingrid

Planning continues for the March 1 Paddle Against Cancer event. Breakfast will be served, and the board discussed inviting a speaker from the American Cancer Society.

### Recreational

Discussion continued regarding the Beach Coordinator role. A recreational race is coming up.

### Canoe Rack

The board reviewed a member proposal that suggested giving racks to non-members. The board agreed to request information about unused racks. Dave wants to change the policy, Kelly suggests requiring annual use of stored canoes.

We now have 190 canoe racks.

### Safety and Steering

The committee has ordered additional safety equipment, including a pulse oximeter and blood pressure cuff, and is reviewing additional communication equipment options, such as walkie talkies.

### Youth, Education, and Cultural Awareness

Plans are underway to organize a club-wide cultural kickoff event and potential youth education programming involving community speakers.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Fundraising Project for Kailua Bay Regatta Course- Bill and Vern

- We need to prove to Moku that the course has to be ready to go by March 1. They're almost there but
- Need to contact Chris Hazzard at Kai'Opua and clarify with our organization what's happening.
- We are in discussion with IronMan and one of our donation families. We are not too worried about the funds.
- We don't have an updated budget. It will be less than 85.

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### **Kailua Bay Regatta Course**

Bill and Vern reported that the project is progressing and funding discussions with partners continue.

### **Guest Paddling Program**

The Board reviewed the status of the Guest Paddling pilot program and discussed ongoing challenges with the current structure.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Upper Road Upgrade completed 2/4 a.m.—Vern, Terry, Bill

### **Upper Road Upgrade**

Vern reported that the upper road upgrade was completed on February 4.

### **Tent Purchase**

A motion was approved to purchase a new canopy tent for racing operations.

### **Scholarship Program**

Bill reported on planning for the 2026 scholarship program.

## **COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED:—None at this time**

The club received a thank-you letter from the Food Basket for the \$700 donation from Abbott Race proceeds.

A thank-you note was also received from Honey Brown.

## **ADJOURN - 11:00 AM**