

2026
RACE RULES

HCRA RACE RULES – 2026
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CODE OF ETHICS

We are all responsible to promote good sportsmanship and fair play in the activities we engage in. This means observance of these race rules as well as generally accepted rules of behavior and all governmental laws.

Paddlers are to avoid situations where a canoe is deliberately rammed, where there is deliberate interference with another crew, where assaults and/or abusive language are used.

Coaches are required to support and enforce these race rules and to avoid any circumvention of these rules.

Officials and Officers are required to do their best to be fair and not biased in their decisions and in carrying out their duties.

Violation of the Code of Ethics shall be referred to the Race Rules Committee for disciplinary action – *i.e.* fines, suspensions, etc.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF RULES

Rules cannot be made to cover every situation. These rules cover the major areas of past problems. Whenever situations come up that are not covered, in the course of deliberating, consideration should be given to the following:

What are we trying to avoid or promote?

Does the proposed penalty match the seriousness of the violation?

Would most people agree the rule is fair?

Does the rule apply equally to large and small clubs? Is the rule clear and easily understood?

Does the rule generally help or hinder what we are about, that is, the racing of canoes?

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FORWARD

A. PURPOSE

The Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association was formed for the purpose of engaging in charitable, educational, cultural, and recreational activities associated with Hawaiian canoeing, including the promotion of outrigger canoe racing and the construction and preservation of authentic Hawaiian Koa canoes.

The Race Rules as set forth are in furtherance of these purposes.

B. OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of HCRA's Race Rules are as follows:

1. To define and cover participation by HCRA member clubs in races and regattas sanctioned by the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association's Board of Directors. These shall include the HCRA State Championship Regatta and such other regattas, surf course races or open races accepted as sanctioned events by HCRA's Board of Directors.

2. To serve as "Model Rules" and as a guide for the member associations in establishing rules for the conduct of their own races and regattas. In this regard, it is to be recognized that each Association is free to establish its own rules. However, participation by any HCRA member club in any race or regatta sanctioned by HCRA must conform to HCRA's Race Rules as set forth herein.

3. To define and cover participation by HCRA member clubs in "approved" races and regattas.

SANCTIONED AND APPROVED RACES AND REGATTAS

A. SANCTIONED RACES AND REGATTAS

1. Definition

A sanctioned race or regatta is one which is conducted directly by – or under the auspices of HCRA.

NOTE: HCRA member clubs may request permission to sponsor sanctioned races and regattas under the auspices of HCRA. (rev. 12/2002)

2. Conditions

All sanctioned races and regattas conducted by HCRA or by clubs under the auspices of HCRA shall be subject to the following conditions:

a. Prior approval by HCRA's Board of Directors.

b. HCRA's prevailing race rules, as approved by HCRA's Board of Directors, shall apply. Any deviation therefrom shall require Board approval.

c. Conduct of the race shall be governed by the HCRA Race Commissioner and Race Committee appointed by the Race Commissioner in accordance with HCRA's Race Rules or as approved by the Board of Directors.

d. Guest participation is permissible subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

e. Entrance fees shall be in accordance with HCRA's prevailing Race Rules or as approved by its Board of Directors.

f. Clubs sponsoring sanctioned races or regattas shall pay the cost of transportation, lodging, and meals of the Race Commissioner and other officials as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors to properly supervise the race or regatta.

B. APPROVED RACES AND REGATTAS

1. Definition

An approved race or regatta is:

a. Any race or regatta – other than HCRA sanctioned races or regattas – sponsored by an HCRA member club (or member association) on any island which has been duly approved by the respective Member Canoe Racing Association. Such races and regattas shall not require approval by HCRA's Board of Directors unless the Board, because of extenuating circumstances, shall deem otherwise. In such cases, the Board of Directors shall notify all prospective participants not less than two (2) weeks prior to the race or

regatta, that approval is being withdrawn and the reasons therefor. The sponsoring club shall have the right of appeal.

b. Any race or regatta sponsored by other than the HCRA or an HCRA member club in which participation by HCRA member clubs has met the approval requirements as indicated below:

i. A race or regatta in which participation is limited to the canoe clubs on any given island, shall require approval of the respective Member Canoe Racing Association only. In the absence of any such Association, HCRA Board of Directors' approval must be obtained.

ii. A race or regatta in which invitations to participate are issued to clubs on any other island, statewide, nationally, or internationally, shall require approval of HCRA's Board of Directors.

2. Conditions

a. The sponsor of a race may request a vote for approval at any Board meeting by submitting all the necessary information about the race to the HCRA Secretary at least two (2) weeks prior to the meeting at which a vote of approval is to be requested. Any subsequent changes in the conduct of the race would be grounds for re-vote.

b. In the case of invitational races and regattas, the sponsoring organization shall submit to the HCRA Secretary the following information for HCRA's Board of Directors' review at least sixty (60) days prior to the event.

Letter of invitation, rules governing the event, including canoe eligibility and class divisions, location and description of the site and race course, evidence of the required approval of governmental agencies (U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Land and Natural Resources, and State Department of Transportation, Harbors Division), character and type of awards, entry fees, escort boat requirements, paddler registration and eligibility requirements.

Failure to satisfactorily meet the requirements of the paragraph above shall be grounds for denying or – in the case of sponsoring HCRA clubs and Associations – for withdrawing approval of the event.

c. Participation by HCRA Member clubs in any race or regatta sponsored by an HCRA member club from which approval has been withdrawn, or any race or regatta sponsored by other than HCRA or an HCRA member club, approved by the Board of Directors, shall constitute a violation of HCRA's Rules and shall render such participating club(s) subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Directors. HCRA club sponsors shall also be subject to disciplinary action if the proposed race or regatta is held after approval from HCRA is withdrawn. Such disciplinary action may include

expulsion from the Association or denial of permission to participate in HCRA sanctioned races and regattas.

ARTICLE I. – RACING EVENTS

A. GENERAL

This article covers the order and distance, scoring and awards for the official events of HCRA's Annual State Championship Regatta. Deviations for other HCRA sanctioned regattas are permissible.

B. ORDER AND DISTANCE (rev. 12/2021, 12/2023, 12/2025)

1.	Women (70 years+)	½ mile
2.	Men (70 years+)	½ mile
3.	Women (65 years+)	½ mile
4.	Men (65 years+)	½ mile
5.	Girls 10 years & under	¼ mile
6.	Boys 10 years & under	¼ mile
7.	Girls 12 years & under	¼ mile
8.	Boys 12 years & under	¼ mile
9.	Mixed Boys & Girls 12 years & under	¼ mile
10.	Girls 13 years & under	¼ mile
11.	Boys 13 years & under	¼ mile
12.	Girls 14 years & under	¼ mile
13.	Boys 14 years & under	¼ mile
14.	Women Novice "B"	¼ mile
15.	Mixed Novice "B"	¼ mile
16.	Men Novice "B"	¼ mile
17.	Girls 15 years & under	½ mile
18.	Boys 15 years & under	½ mile
19.	Girls 16 years & under	½ mile
20.	Boys 16 years & under	½ mile
21.	Girls 18 years & under	½ mile
22.	Boys 18 years & under	½ mile
23.	Mixed Boys and Girls 18 years & under	½ mile
24.	Women Novice "A"	½ mile
25.	Men Novice "A"	½ mile
26.	Women Freshmen	½ mile
27.	Men Freshmen	½ mile
28.	Women Junior	1 mile
29.	Men Junior	1 mile
30.	Women Senior	1½ mile
31.	Men Senior	1½ mile
32.	Women (60 years+)	½ mile
33.	Men (60 years+)	½ mile
34.	Women (55 years+)	½ mile
35.	Men (55 years+)	½ mile
36.	Women (50 years+)	½ mile
37.	Men (50 years+)	½ mile
38.	Women Open Four	½ mile
39.	Men Open Four	½ mile

40.	Mixed Men & Women (55 years+)	½ mile
41.	Mixed Men & Women (40 years+)	½ mile
42.	Mixed Men & Women Open	½ mile
43.	Women (40 years+)	½ mile
44.	Men (40 years+)	½ mile

C. SCORING OF RACES

The scoring of races will be for all events 1 through 14 places, with the point spread of 15, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

All events 1 to 44 will receive points. (rev. 12/2020)

D. DIVISIONS

There will be four (4) divisions: Divisions "A", "AA", "AAA." and "AAAA". (rev. 12/2006)

Division "A" will include clubs entering the State Championship Regatta with six (6) crews and below.

Division "AA" will include clubs with at least seven (7) but no more than twelve (12) crews.

Division "AAA" will include clubs with at least thirteen (13) but no more than twenty (20) crews.

Division "AAAA" will include clubs with at least twenty-one (21) or more crews. Division will be declared at the drawing of lanes only.

E. ORDER OF FINISH

The order of finish shall be recorded on Form HCRA 550.

F. AWARDS

1. Divisions

Awards for first (1st) through third (3rd) places.

First place trophies shall be the same size; Second place trophies shall be the same size; and Third place trophies shall be the same size.

2. Crews

Medals for the first (1st) through third (3rd) places.

3. Ties

In the case of ties, HCRA is responsible for purchasing the extra trophy and/or medals.

ARTICLE II. – CLASSIFICATION OF RACING EVENTS

A. DEFINITIONS

1. Senior
Open to any male or female who is not paddling in any classified or unclassified event in the same regatta, except as provided under "STEP UPS" (Article II, Page 9, Conditions of Classification).

2. Junior
Same as Senior Classification

3. Freshmen
Same as Senior Classification

4. Mixed Boys & Girls 18 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 19th birthday by the first day of the calendar year. The crew shall be three (3) boys and three (3) girls. No seating requirements.

5. Boys & Girls 18 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not 19th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

6. Boys & Girls 16 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 17th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

7. Boys & Girls 15 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 16th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

8. Boys & Girls 14 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 15th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

9. Boys & Girls 13 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 14th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

10. Mixed Boys & Girls 12 Years & Under (rev. 12/2003)
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 13th birthday by the first day of the calendar year. The crew shall be three (3) boys and three (3) girls. No seating requirements.

11. Boys & Girls 12 Years & Under
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 13th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

12. Boys & Girls 10 Years & Under (added 12/2024)
Open to any boy/girl who has not reached his/her 11th birthday by the first day of the calendar year.

13. Novice "A" Men & Women
Open to any first, second, or third year paddler competing in this division who has never paddled in any higher classification. A person may compete in "A" classification for two years, then must move to a higher classification.

14. Novice "B" Men & Women
Open to any first year paddler who has no previous competitive paddling experience and who has never paddled in any higher classification. A person may compete in "B" classification for only one year.

15. Mixed Novice "B" Men & Women (rev. 12/2006)
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who is a first year paddler who has no previous competitive paddling experience and who has never paddled in a higher classification. A person may compete in "B" classification for only one year. The crew shall be three (3) men and three (3) women. No seating requirements.

16. Men & Women Open Four
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female. The crew shall be four (4) men or four (4) women.

17. Mixed Men & Women Open
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female. The crew shall be three (3) men and three (3) women. No seating requirements.

18. Men & Women 40
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 40th birthday on the day of the regatta. (rev. 12/2002)

19. Mixed Men & Women 40
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 40th birthday on the day of the regatta. The crew shall be three (3) men and three (3) women. No seating requirements.

20. Men & Women 50
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 50th birthday on the day of the regatta. (rev. 12/2005, 12/2017)

21. Men & Women 55
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 55th birthday on the day of the regatta. (rev. 12/2005)

22. Mixed Men & Women 55
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 55th birthday on the day of the regatta. The crew shall be three (3) men and three (3) women. No seating requirement

23. Men & Women 60
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 60th birthday on the day of the regatta.

24. Men & Women 65
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 65th birthday on the day of the regatta.

25. Men & Women 70
UNCLASSIFIED EVENT Open to any male or female who has reached his/her 70th birthday on the day of the regatta.

B. CONDITIONS OF CLASSIFICATION

1. **Step-Ups** For the purpose of definition, Novice "B" (men and women) shall be considered the lowest classification, followed by Novice "A", Boys/Girls 10 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 12 Years & Under, Mixed Boys & Girls 12 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 13 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 14 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 15 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 16 Years & Under, Boys/Girls 18 Years & Under, Mixed Boys & Girls 18 Years & Under, Freshmen Men/Women, Junior Men/Women, and Senior Men/Women.

   On race day, providing all conditions as specified in Article IV, Registration, have been met, a paddler may move in classification and may paddle in any two events for which they meet the age and gender qualification, except that Novice A and Novice B paddlers may only paddle in Novice and age based events without being considered a step-up should they move into Freshmen, Junior or Senior Men/Women. The paddler's name must be submitted on entry form HCRA 400, with the paddler's previous classification noted.

   PADDLERS MAY RACE IN ONLY TWO EVENTS.

2. Paddlers in age classifications may move to higher classifications and back to lower classifications the following year, provided they meet the HCRA age limit requirements.

3. Boys and girls who have not reached their 19th birthday by the first day of the calendar and who have paddled in a Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, or Senior race, also known as an open division race, during their island association's regatta season, will be reclassified to their age classification.

4. A novice paddler can step up to a Freshmen classification or higher but will not be allowed back to a novice classification the following year.

5. Men and Women 40, Men and Women 50, Men and Women 55, Men and Women 60, Men and Women 65, and Men and Women 70 paddlers shall be allowed to paddle in any two events, and provided they meet the age qualifications for age-based events. (rev. 12/2008, 12/2010, 11/2013, 12/2016, 12/2017, 12/2025)

6. To qualify to paddle in the State Championship regatta a person must paddle in at least one (1) sanctioned regatta with a registered club in the current year.

ARTICLE III. – ELIGIBILITY

A. CLUBS

Any member of HCRA who is in good standing and has complied with the registration rules (Article IV), shall be eligible to compete in regattas sponsored or sanctioned by this Association.

B. PADDLERS

Any male or female who is a member of a recognized HCRA club is eligible to participate, subject to the classification and registration rules (Articles II and IV).

C. ENTRANCE FEES

Each club participating in an HCRA sanctioned race or regatta shall be subject to an entrance fee to be determined by the Board of Directors for each race or event entered. This fee shall be payable prior to the drawing of lanes as stipulated in the provisions in Article VII of these Race Rules. Once accepted, this fee shall not be refunded.

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ARTICLE IV. – REGISTRATION

A. REGISTRATION DATE: CERTIFIED BY EACH MEMBER ASSOCIATION

For purposes of eligibility, all paddlers shall be listed as having registered as of January 1, regardless of the date of their registration. All paddlers validated, in the current calendar year, in the HCRAPaddler™ database or successor database shall provide HCRA certified photo ID's, and current valid HCRA insurance waiver, which are submitted by each Member Association's Race Director or Race Secretary. Date of this submission shall be determined by the HCRA Race Secretary. (rev. 12/2002, 12/2016)

B. LATE REGISTRATION (rev. 12/2002)

Registration of new paddlers not previously submitted to the Race Secretary will be accepted. The deadline for late registration will be 9:00 p.m. the night prior to the lane drawing. A maximum of 12 paddlers per club will be allowed late registration. There will be a fee of $20.00 per paddler.

C. AGE AND GENDER VERIFICATION

Age and gender verification shall be conducted by HCRA, which may be required by the Race Committee when deemed necessary. Verification of age and gender will be confirmed by any publicly recognized document such as, but not limited to, driver's license, school certified document, passport, birth certificate, military identification resident alien card, etc. (rev. 12/2002)

A paddler whose identification document bears X as their gender shall race in the State Championship Regatta in the gender classification, male (M) or female (F), determined by their Member Association. Procedures for determination of gender classification shall be established by each Member Association. (added 12/2020, rev. 12/2021)

1. If a paddler's gender classification cannot be ascertained by their race history in the HCRAPaddler™ database, then they will be asked to select a gender classification for the State Championship Regatta, by the late registration deadline above, which will apply for the entire State Championship Regatta; or

2. If a Member Association has no rule or procedure in place for gender classification for a paddler whose identification document bears X as their gender, then the paddler must select a gender classification by the late registration deadline above, which will apply for the entire State Championship Regatta.

D. CLUB ROSTER AND CLASSIFICATION

For purposes of definition, Form HCRA 200 shall be identified as the Club Roster. Each member club will list the names of all paddlers, male and female separately, in alphabetical order, last names first. The Club Roster must be generated from the HCRAPaddler™ database or successor database – no handwritten rosters will be accepted. (rev. 12/2003, 12/2016), and is available on the HCRA website www.hcrapaddler.com. (added 12/2007)

1. Form HCRA 200 from member clubs shall be submitted to the HCRA Race Secretary or his/her agent, in duplicate, signed by the member Association Race Director/Secretary.

2. Copies of each Club Roster, Form HCRA 200, shall be submitted to the HCRA Race Secretary by each Association Director/Secretary, who shall be responsible for the collection of the lists from each club within their Association.

E. TRANSFERS

1. A paddler transferring from one club to another must have his/her transfer approved by his/her member Association Race Director/Secretary and this approval must be submitted to the HCRA Race Secretary by the time entries are due in order for the paddler to be eligible to paddle in such race. Form HCRA 600 shall be used for this purpose.

2. A paddler who paddles in a race with a member club is ineligible to paddle competitively for another club in the same racing season. The Race Committee has the prerogative to approve such transfers in special cases such as hardship due to a switch in geographical location.

3. A paddler transferring from one Member Association to another must retain the same classification he/she last paddled in.

ARTICLE V. – EQUIPMENT

A. GENERAL

1. There are three (3) classifications of canoes: (1) *Koa*, (2) Non-*Koa*, and (3) Open. In addition to the requirements of Article V, *Koa* and Non-*Koa* class canoes only shall conform to the design specifications set forth under Addendum "A" of these rules. (Refer to illustration of Hawaiian Koa Racing Canoe Hulls in Present Day Use, copyrighted-1978, HCRA). All canoes must be certified eligible to race in one of the above classes. Canoe measurements shall be recorded on Form HCRA 800, and evidence of certification shall be set forth by the Race Commissioner on Form HCRA 800A.

2. Canoes shall be weighed by the Race Committee each year before the canoe is eligible to participate in an HCRA sanctioned race or regatta. If not previously certified, the canoe shall be measured also. At any time during the year at the discretion of the Race Committee, canoes may be weighed and/or measured. A canoe's weight, length, additional weights and position, if any, as describe in Section B ("Weight") shall be recorded on Form HCRA 801.

3. No covering on the top of a canoe to prevent swamping shall be permitted, except in long distance races.

B. WEIGHT

1. All canoes shall weigh no less than 400 pounds. For purposes of weight determination, the word "canoe" shall not include the *ama*, *'iako*, and tying cord, but shall include the hull and permanent fixtures such as the *manu*, gunwales, *wae*, seats, ribs, *pepeau*, and patches.

2. For canoes produced prior to August 1, 1988, the minimum weight of the hull without weights must be no less than 350 pounds. All added weights in excess of 15 pounds must be equally distributed between seats #2 and #5.

   For canoes produced after August 1, 1988, the minimum weight of the hull without weights must be no less than 385 pounds. All added weights in excess of 5 pounds must be equally distributed between seats #2 and #5.

   All added weights must be permanently fixed under the seats by screws or bolts to allow ease of inspection by race Officials at any time during a race or regatta.

C. *KOA* CANOE SPECIFICATIONS

1. It is our intent to honor and preserve the Hawaiian *Koa* Canoe. Whenever the inevitable conflicts come up between tradition and speed it is our intent that tradition be more important than speed. Therefore, when some rule concerning the *Koa* canoe is not specifically clear, it is agreed that the traditional method will be the

one followed when interpreting the rule. The traditional method is to be defined as what the majority of the canoe builders have done in the past.

Slab Construction: *Koa* log or logs (2 maximum) may be cut into large labs and reassembled to form a rough shape of a *wa'a*. When the *wa'a* has been assembled it must be inspected by a CSEC member prior to final shaping. The port and starboard, *hema* and *akau*, will be made up of slabs with minimum measurements of 2" x 10" x 10'. Slabs to construct the bottom of the hull can be 10" thick by 10' long at a minimum. The wide may vary with the shape of the hull. Eighty percent (80%) of slab construction canoes must be derived from the same log or two logs.

2. The hull (*wa'a*) of a *Koa* canoe shall be made of Hawaiian *Koa* and if extended, modified, enlarged, patched or repaired, such must be done with *Koa* components.

   a. All new construction of *koa* canoes shall be documented for historical and educational purposes. The method of documentation shall include but not be limited to photography, videography, and other such documentary technologies as may evolve.

3. Gunwales (*na mo'o*) and *na manu* of *Koa* canoes are to be made of wood, with any other materials used only as a finish. Except as provided herein, all patches (including ribbing) installed in the hull of any *Koa* canoe shall be made of *Koa* wood. The exceptions to this rule are as follows:

   a. Non-*Koa* patches which were installed prior to the canoe weighing at the first regatta of 1970 and reported in writing to the Race Committee as to type of material, size, and location in the canoe hull.

   b. Non-*Koa* patches which are installed after the canoe weighing at the first race or regatta of any year and replaced by a *Koa* patch prior to use of that canoe in a race or regatta in any following year.

4. *Ama* and *'iako* shall be fashioned from only Hawaiian woods including, but not limited to: *Wiliwili*, *Hau*, *Milo*, *'Ōhi'a*, *'Ohe'ohe*, and *Koa*. An *ama* may be covered by any fibrous material and may be constructed of wood veneer. No fins, keels, or other devices shall be allowed. (rev. 12/2005)

   'Iako can be formed by either shaping of a whole branch of the preceding Hawaiian woods or by laminating layers of cut planks. *'Iako* can be coated with a non-fibrous material such as oil, epoxy, varnish, or paint. (rev. 12/2005)

   An unpainted *ama* made from Hawaiian wood that is to be painted must first, before painting, or in the case of a veneer construction prior to assembly, be reported to the Canoe Specification and Equipment Committee (CSEC) so that the *ama* can be checked before painting or before being put together by a designated member of the CSEC who will make a permanent record of the wood type. The person performing the inspection shall mark or identify the *ama* so that it is distinguishable from an uninspected *ama*. Violation of this section by a club can and may result in a penalty,

such as the disqualification of the canoe, at the discretion of the Race Committee. (rev. 12/2005)

At the discretion of the Race Committee, any painted or colored *ama* attached to a *Koa* canoe during a sanctioned race or regatta may be subject to a test to determine the nature of the wood or interior. This "proof check" will be made at the cost of the club involved. (rev. 12/2005)

5. Metallic screws or bolts can be used to secure seats to *pepeiao*. (added 12/2007)

6. No plastic, rubber or non wood plugs or portals can be used in the construction of flotation compartments "tanks" in both front and rear *manu*. (added 12/2007)

7. Plastic grommets can be used where rigging cord goes through gunwales. (added 12/2007)

8. Metallic, plastic, or non wood rails required for long distance (open ocean racing) canvas may be left on for the State Championship Regatta. (added 12/2007)

D. NON-KOA CLASS CANOE SPECIFICATIONS

1. The hull of the canoe may be constructed from any or all types of material such as fiberglass, foam, metal wood, laminated Koa, etc. It must be traditional Hawaiian design.

2. The *ama* and *'iako* may be fashioned from any type of material. No attachable fins, keels, or other devices shall be allowed.

E. OPEN CLASS CANOE SPECIFICATIONS

1. An Open Class canoe shall follow the requirements of Article V (A) and V (B) above, except for hull design specifications. There are no design restrictions other than those set forth below.

2. The canoe shall be a (6) six-man, single hull canoe, rigged with a single *ama* and double *'iako*, separated by at least one (1) seat. It shall not exceed forty-five (45) feet in length. There shall be no mechanical devices or additional attachments for bailing, powering or steering. Fiberglass canoes must have positive buoyancy.

F. PADDLE SPECIFICATIONS

Paddles must be single-bladed and can be made from any material. Paddles must have 50% visible wood in the shaft, including bamboo, which can be solid or veneer. The paddles can be made by any construction method and can be solid or hollow. Paddles found on the HCRA conforming paddles list shall be allowed in the HCRA state championships. Extra paddles may be carried in each canoe during the race. (rev. 12/2003, 12/2025)

Anyone caught with an illegal paddle shall pay a fine: 1st paddle $50.00; 2nd paddle

$100.00; 3 or more paddles: $200.00 each, to be paid within 30 minutes of notification. The club to which the paddler belongs shall be responsible. Intentional use of a non-conforming paddle shall result in a fine and disqualification of the crew. (added 12/2003, rev. 12/2025)

G. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Canoes, equipment, etc., not meeting the specifications shall not be used in HCRA sanctioned races and the ruling of the Race Committee on this matter shall be final.

2. Any crew using non-standard equipment during a race shall be disqualified.

3. The Race Committee may conduct inspection of equipment at any time.

4. During a sanctioned or approved race or regatta, each club is fully responsible for its own property damage.

5. A canoe or crew deemed unofficial prior to a racing event shall not be permitted to enter the course.

6. New canoes or modifications to any canoes since October 1, 1976, and in the future, must be reported in writing to the Race Director immediately upon completion.

7. All basic rigging shall be of traditional woven (cord) type with rubber added only as an additional wrapping.

H. HCRA CLUB AND CANOE IDENTIFICATION ASSIGNMENTS

Each club shall be supplied a sock with the club's number/letter on it. Each club shall be required to place the sock on the canoe it is racing. No canoe shall be in an official event without the sock and each club shall be responsible to secure the sock to the canoe. HCRA shall determine the color of the sock and the size and color of the number/letter. All socks shall be returned to HCRA following the championship race or clubs will be responsible to pay the cost of the replacement of the sock prior to the annual meeting of HCRA in order to be eligible to vote at the annual meeting. (Added 12/2025)

OAHU

Club canoes for OHCRA	shall run from 01 to 29.
Club canoes for NOONHW	shall run from A to Z.

MAUI

Club canoes for MCHCA	shall run from 30 to 49.

HAWAII

Club canoes for MOHOCRA	shall run from 50 to 69.

KAUAI

Club canoes for KOA	shall run from 79 to 89.

MOLOKAI

Club canoes for MCRA shall run from 90 to 99.

I. INSURANCE

It is required that all escort boats and/or auxiliary boats used in regattas or races have insurance.

J. REQUIRED PERIODIC WATER LINING OF KOA CANOES

1. The HCRA hereby establishes a periodic water lining program to ensure canoes conform to the design specifications set forth under addendum "A" of these rules. (Refer to illustration of Hawaiian Koa racing canoe hulls in present day use, (copyrighted 1978 HCRA) and to provide for the training of persons in water lining.

2. Each association shall water line a minimum of one canoe per year. Canoes shall be chosen randomly. Non-*Koa* canoe hulls may also be water lined for training purposes. A completed water line form, HCRA Form 800, shall be submitted to CSEC immediately upon conclusion of the water line.

3. Water lining under this section shall be done prior to the State Championship Regatta.

4. HCRA shall pay $100.00 per canoe water lined to offset costs and shall pay airfare for one experienced/certified off-island person to participate in the water lining, if requested by the member association.

5. The member association shall provide a minimum of two experienced/certified waterline personnel and two inexperienced persons to be trained. The member association is also responsible to provide all necessary equipment to conduct the water lining. At water lining procedures done on Oahu, Na Ohana O Na Hui Waa (NOONHW) and the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA) shall each provide one member.

6. Nothing in this section shall affect any other existing requirement for the water lining of a canoe (*i.e.* a canoe is still subject to water lining if changes are made to the hull).

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ARTICLE VI. – OFFICIALS

A. RACE COMMISSIONER

The position of Race Commissioner will be an elected position as per the Bylaws. (rev. 12/2003)

The Race Commissioner shall:

1. Serve as the Race Director for all races and regattas sanctioned by HCRA.

2. Select the members and serve as Chairperson of the Race Committee for each race or regatta sanctioned by HCRA.

3. Monitor the racing activities of Member Associations and clubs, and submit reports and recommendations to the Board of Directors as deemed appropriate.

4. Perform such other duties as shall be assigned from time to time by the Board of Directors.

B. RACE SECRETARY

1. The Race Secretary shall retain all records of HCRA races, be responsible for the preparation of all race forms and submission of them to all member Associations and in general be responsible for administrative duties as deemed necessary by the Race Commissioner and/or the President.

2. The position of Race Secretary will be an elected position as per the Bylaws. (rev. 12/2003)

3. All HCRA forms for the State Championship Regatta shall be **made available** to each member club no less than two (2) weeks prior to the State Championship Regatta. (added 12/2007)

C. RACE COMMITTEE

1. Make-Up

There shall be a Race Committee for each State Championship Regatta. This Race Committee shall consist of no less than four (4) members who shall be the Race Directors/Secretaries of the Member Associations. The Vice-Chairman of the Race Committee shall be the Race Director/Secretary of the Host Association.

2. Duties

a. Preside at and supervise the officials of all HCRA sanctioned races and regattas, and ensure that such races and regattas are conducted in accordance with these Race Rules

b. Conduct the drawing of lanes.

c. Brief and provide all race officials with copies of the Race Rules prior to each race or regatta.

d. Inspect equipment when required.

D. RACE RULES COMMITTEE

1. Make-Up

There shall be a Race Rules Committee for each State Championship Regatta. This committee shall consist of no less than four (4) members, who shall be the Race Rules Chairman of each Member Association.

2. Duties

a. Brief and provide all coaches with copies of the Race Rules prior to each race or regatta.

b. Hear and render decisions as soon as possible on all protests. Decisions of this committee on matters under its cognizance shall be binding and final. However, decisions relative to the interpretation of these Race Rules and Bylaws of the Association may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

E. OFFICIALS

1. Regatta Officials

Regatta officials shall be selected from the roster of officials who officiate at regattas held on the island where the State Championship Regatta will be held. Officials serving in other associations shall also be considered for selection at the discretion of the Race Commissioner and the Race Directors/Secretaries of the various Member Associations.

This said roster, which shall include names and qualifications of officials who officiate at regattas held on the island where the State Championship Regatta will be held, shall be submitted to the Race Commissioner no later than June 15, prior to the State Championship Regatta. Not meeting this deadline will result in a penalty to be determined by the Races Rules Committee. (added 12/2009, rev. 12/2016)

The following officials shall be appointed by the Race Commissioner with the approval of the Race Committee to serve at all races:

a. Not less than five (5) inspectors and not more than eight (8) inspectors.

b. Eight (8) judges and eight (8) spotters to determine the order of finish. (rev. 12/2002)

c. At least one (1) and not more than five (5) timers.

d. One (1) starter and not more than two (2) assistants.

e. No less than fourteen (14) clerks of course.

f. Two (2) announcers.

g. One (1) Head Recorder and no less than four (4) assistants. (rev. 12/2016)

2. Official Uniform

The Race Commissioner shall designate the attire to be worn by all officials in order to distinguish them from others. This attire shall be provided by HCRA at no cost to the officials.

3. Official Boats

No less than four (4) suitable power boats to carry regatta officials conducting start and/or inspection of the race.

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ARTICLE VII. – RECEIPT OF ENTRIES AND DRAWING OF LANES

A. DATE

The Race Committee shall designate the place and set the time and date for receipt of entries and drawing of lanes. Such date shall be no later than seven (7) days prior to a regatta.

B. LANE DRAWING

1. The drawing of lanes shall take place after the receipt of entries for all events. Drawing shall be recorded on Form HCRA 500.

2. The lanes shall be consecutive and commence with Lane One (1). Lane One (1) shall be shoreward (for courses parallel to the shore) and the left hand side of the course looking seaward (for courses running perpendicular to the shore).

3. The selection of lanes shall be by the Association Representatives in order as determined by the drawing of lots. Clubs whose lanes are selected shall abide by the lane selection made by the representative.

4. In the case of there being open lanes for an event, each Association shall have an equal chance to draw for said "Open Lanes". This drawing shall take place for each event after Associations draw for their allotted share of lanes.

5. a. Pills shall be pulled in seeded rounds. The number of Associations in each seeded round will determine how many pills are used for each. First seed will be round one (1), second seed will be round two (2), third seed will be round three (3), and fourth seed will be round four (4). Any additional seeds will be placed into supplementary rounds. The Association's representative that has the number one (1) pill will be able to select any available lane. The number two (2) pill will choose any available lane, and so on, until the last pill is drawn for that event. (rev. 12/2002, 12/2025)

   b. Associations which use the HCRAPaddler™ / RaceDay system for registration and race results shall have its first pill placed in the first round.

   c. Associations which do not use the HCRAPaddler™ / RaceDay system for registration and race results shall have its first pill placed in the next highest remaining round.

6. The Race Secretary shall immediately notify each Association's Race Director/Secretary of any lane changes.

7. The Race Commissioner may call for a coaches' meeting and approval for any lane changes on race day.

8. Within 24 hours of the conclusion of the Initial Lane Drawing, the Race Secretary or designated appointee will publish the Lane Drawing on the HCRA website. Any club wishing to draw for an "Open Lane" must contact their Association

Representative no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the regatta. The Race Secretary will conduct a final Drawing of Lanes on that Tuesday following the 5:00 p.m. deadline in the same manner as B.4 above. Association Representatives unable to attend the lane drawing may appoint someone to represent them. The Race Secretary will immediately notify each Association Representative of any additional lane selections. (rev. 12/2005)

9. Each association shall submit their seeding roster no later than three (3) days prior to the initial lane drawing. This roster will be published on the HCRA website prior to the lane drawing. An association that does not meet this deadline will be penalized based on the number of affiliate member clubs in the association, as follows:

   a. Less than 12 hours past the deadline will be fined $10 per affiliate member club;

   b. 12 to 24 hours past deadline will be fined $20 per affiliate member club; and

   c. Greater than 24 hours past the deadline will be fined $40 per affiliate member club. (added 12/2009, rev. 12/2023)

C. ENTRIES AT DRAWING OF LANES

1. Each club shall be limited to one (1) entry per event.

2. Each entry must be accompanied by the prescribed entry fee unless pre- payment has been made with the Race Committee or Treasurer or designee.

3. There shall be no substitutions of the names on roster lists after the drawing of lanes conducted no later than seven (7) days prior to a regatta and no post entries following the final Drawing of Lanes as stated in B.8 above. (rev. 12/2005)

4. Eligible paddlers to paddle the race shall be those properly registered by submitting forms HCRA 100 and HCRA 200.

D. ENTRIES ON RACE DAY

1. For identification purposes, the final entry list shall be known as Form HCRA 400.

2. The final entry list shall be submitted on the date of the regatta two events prior to each race upon the call of the Race Officials.

3. This entry list shall contain only the names of a full crew and only those listed on Forms HCRA 100 and HCRA 200.

4. A paddler so classified may be eligible to paddle in a higher classification providing all the specifications of eligibility as set forth have been met.

5. The persons who actually paddle the race shall be those whose names appear on the entry list. Participating paddlers shall sign Form HCRA 425, Confirmation of Paddlers.

6. Failure to follow the procedures as outlined will result in disqualification of the crew.

7. All mixed races will be three (3) male and three (3) female paddlers per crew.

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ARTICLE VIII. – FLAT COURSE RULES

A. COURSE

1. The official HCRA race course shall be ¼ or ½ mile in length and shall be laid out in equal lanes of no less than eighty feet (80') wide. Each lane shall be designated by three (3) flags of the same color; one at each end of the course and one (1) at the center. (rev. 12/2006)

    a. Flags shall have a minimum dimension of thirty inches (30"), shall be made of lightweight, quick-drying cloth, and shall be in solid colors.

    b. Starting lane flags, quarter mile flags and one-half mile flags shall be identified by the same flag color in the same lane.

2. The distance between the starting ¼ mile lines and between the ¼ mile and ½ mile lines shall be established by actual measurement of both lanes one (1) and the last numbered lane to ensure that all three (3) lines are parallel. All flags on each line shall be as nearly as practicable in a straight line.

3. Regatta events one-half (½) mile or less shall use a one-quarter (¼) mile course. All events above one-half (½) mile in distance shall use the one-half (½) mile course if such course is used at the designated venue.

4. At least one (1) hour before the first race, the Race Commissioner, in the company of one (1) representative from each association who so wishes, shall inspect and if requested, remeasure and reset the course to ensure that all lanes between any two (2) lines are of equal length. Moreover, in order for record times to have meaning, the distances between lines shall not be allowed to vary from the ¼ mile more than five (5) yards.

B. STARTING

1. All starts shall be in accordance with the instructions from the Starter.

2. When the five (5) minute flag is displayed, all canoes are to go immediately to their assigned lane and shall stay behind their respective flag.

    A yellow flag will be displayed from the official boat for a maximum of five (5) minutes after the last canoe from the previous race reaches shore. The yellow flag may be raised longer than five minutes, at the discretion of the head water official. Then, the yellow flag will be waved for approximately five (5) seconds; the yellow flag will be brought down and the red flag will be raised. (rev. 12/2016)

    The official start shall be within the five (5) second period and shall be signified by the raising of the green flag and the lowering of the red flag simultaneously, and may include a blast from an air horn, pistol or other device. A lagging canoe shall have

no right to protest on the grounds of an unfair start in the event the race is started. There shall be no recall. (rev. 12/2016)

3. Disqualification on Starting
All canoes must start in their assigned lanes. If the starting line flag bends over and touches the water, the crew will be disqualified. (rev. 12/2014) At the start of a race, any canoe in the front of the starting flags, or in the wrong lane, shall be disqualified. Burying a lane flag will constitute a disqualification. (rev. 11/2013) A disqualified canoe may continue to race, unless for some specific reason the Race Committee decides otherwise. The Coach or Representative of the canoe club which has been disqualified will be notified by the Race Commissioner or designee before the public announcement. (rev. 12/2008, 12/2016)

4. Each canoe must start and finish with a full crew of paddlers.

C. FINISHING

All canoes must finish in their assigned lanes. Once the bow crosses the finish line, any part of the canoe may touch the flag or floater. No crews are allowed to re-enter the race course until the last canoe in the event crosses the finish line, unless directed by the head water official. (rev 12/2016)

D. LANES

All canoes must remain in their own lanes. Canoes shall keep in their respective lanes and in no way interfere with other participating canoes. Where two (2) canoes approach each other from opposite directions within the same lane, each canoe should occupy as nearly as possible the one-half (½) width of the lane nearest its own line of flags so that the canoes will pass each other between adjoining flags. If interference is claimed, the canoe not in its assigned lane will be disqualified.

E. TURNS

All turns shall be left turns around assigned lane flags. If the flag bends over and touches the water, the crew will be disqualified. Where canoes assigned to adjoining lanes occupying the same lane during a turning maneuver, each canoe shall maneuver in such a way as to occupy as nearly as possible the one-half (½) width of the lane nearest its own line of flags so that the canoes will pass each other hull to hull.

F. SWAMPING

A canoe that swamps during a race may be bailed out by its crew and proceed in the race. There shall be a ten (10) minute time limit to do so. At the end of the ten (10) minutes, the water officials shall declare the crew disqualified and shall provide assistance to return the canoe to shore.

G. OVERLAP

An overlap is defined as a condition existing when no open water can be seen between the stern of one (1) canoe and the bow of another, when viewed at right angles to their course.

H. BOAT HOLDERS

No more than two (2) boat holders will be allowed. No assisting in forward motion of canoe at the start. The penalty for violations of this paragraph will be a fine of $100.00; however, the crew and club will not be disqualified. The fine of $100.00 must be paid by the canoe club and until paid, the club may not enter any further event of a regatta on a race day, nor any future regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this fine. (rev. 12/2014)

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ARTICLE IX. – SURF COURSE RULES

When sanctioned races are held in the surf, the foregoing rules shall apply to the following:

A. COURSE

The course shall be laid out to suit existing conditions and to take advantage of the surf. The length of the races shall be the same as for the flat course.

B. STEERSMEN

The classification rules as applied to Steersmen and as pertaining to each participating club may be suspended at the option of the Race Committee.

C. STARTING

When races are started from the beach, all crew members shall be seated, with the exception of the steersmen, who shall hold the canoe at the start, this being the intent that canoes must be protected in the shore break and that the start must not be needlessly delayed. The beach shall be defined as the lowest point of the water's edge when the tide sets out seaward.

D. SURFING

Surfing on waves shall be permitted but no canoe may be allowed to block the normal course or in any way interfere with another in an attempt to pick up or surf on a wave.

E. PASSING

In races that do not require the canoes to maintain their respective lanes, a canoe that is attempting to pass another shall keep clear at all times and in no way interfere with the canoe it is attempting to pass; nor shall the canoe in the lead attempt to prevent another from passing.

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ARTICLE X. – STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

A. SCHEDULE OF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTS (rev. 12/2012, 12/2020)

Beginning in 2021, the State Championship Regatta will be hosted in the following sequence on the island of the host association except for the Molokai Canoe Racing Association who will host on Oahu:

Oahu	Na Ohana O Na Hui Waa (NOONHW)
Hawaii	Moku O Hawaii Canoe Racing Association (MOHCRA)
Oahu	Molokai Canoe Racing Association (MCRA)
Maui	Maui County Hawaiian Canoe Association (MCHCA)
Oahu	Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA)
Kauai	Kauai Outrigger Association (KOA)

If the State Championship Regatta is canceled, the hosting association may host the race the following year with the approval of the Board of Directors.

B. LANES

The number of lanes shall be no less than (10) and no more than fourteen (14).

C. QUALIFICATION

1. Member clubs will qualify on their respective islands under the jurisdiction of their association. Method of selection shall be established at the discretion of each association. Islands with no association shall defer to the HCRA association director(s) who shall establish criteria for qualification.

2. Last qualification race shall be held no less than twelve (12) days prior to the State Championship Regatta.

D. NUMBER OF LANES

The number of lanes allotted to each association shall be determined by their percentage of paddlers who have raced in a regatta in the previous year's racing season or last complete racing season in which all associations raced. This percentage of paddlers who have raced in a regatta shall be determined by the HCRA Treasurer or designee from the records of the HCRA RaceDay database system or its successor database. If at any time a database of paddlers who have raced does not exist or is unavailable, then the records provided by each association's representative to HCRA will be used to determine the number of lanes allotted to each association. Each association is required to use the HCRA RaceDay database system to substantiate its figures. (rev. 12/2016, 12/2020)

This determination shall be made, as early as is practicable, but no later than the annual membership meeting of HCRA. If any Association has a percentage of less than 1 divided by the number of lanes (1/x where x is the number of lanes) of the total registered paddlers, that Association shall be allotted one (1) lane at the HCRA State Championship Regatta. Those lanes shall then be subtracted from the total number of lanes determined for the

venue and the rest of the remaining lanes will then be apportioned according to the previously determined percentages. (rev. 12/2019)

E. RACE SITE AND DISTANCE

1. The race site, total number of lanes to be set, and course distance (¼ or ½ mile), with the approval of the HCRA member clubs, is to be decided and announced by the Host Association at the annual membership meeting.

2. The State Championship Regatta will start at approximately 8:00a.m. Refer to Addendum B. Guidelines for Race Cancellations.

3. Unless determined otherwise by the HCRA Board of Directors, the State Championship Regatta will be held on the first Saturday in August. (added 12/2009)

F. CLASSIFICATION OF PADDLERS

Paddlers' classifications for the State Championship Regatta shall be determined by their Member Association. Procedures for determination of classification shall be established by each Member Association. Once registered by their Member Association, the paddler may not race in any lower classification.

At the time of registration, it must be stated what the highest classification the paddler has competed in at the state level.

G. OFFICIALS

Regatta officials shall be selected from the roster of officials who officiate at regattas held on the island where the State Championship Regatta will be held. Officials serving in the other associations shall also be considered for selection at the discretion of the Race Commissioner and the Race Directors/Secretaries of the various Member Associations.

H. CANOES

Clubs entering the HCRA State Championship Regatta must race in Koa canoes certified by HCRA.

I. GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

1. A special event may be held each year for the Mentally and Physically Challenged.

2. Host Associations may recommend to the Board, an additional special event. Such recommendations must be presented to the Board no later than three (3) months prior to the State Championship Regatta for approval.

J. STARTS AND FINISHES

When at all physically possible, the starts and finishes of all events will be video recorded. (added 12/2003)

ARTICLE XI. – INVITATIONAL RACES AND REGATTAS

Any invitational long distance race or regatta sanctioned by HCRA shall be subject to the following provisions:

A. GENERAL

1. Invitations must be submitted in writing to the Board for approval at a regular meeting at least 60 days prior to the date of the event.

2. Invitations must specify, and the Board must approve, the rules which will govern the event.

3. A map of the proposed race course and site must accompany the invitation and shall be subject to the approval of the Board.

4. It shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring organization to obtain, and invitations must be accompanied by, valid evidence of approval by the United States Coast Guard, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and State Department of Transportation, Harbors Division.

5. Provisions such as officials, etc., may be established by the Board at its discretion.

B. AWARDS

The character and type of awards, including division and distribution of cash awards, shall be subject to approval of the Board. Cash awards must be paid to Clubs only.

C. ENTRY FEES

The amount of entry fees may be established by the Board at its discretion.

D. RACE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Race Commissioner as Race Director and not less than two (2) Race Committee officials shall preside in distance races.

2. In the event of small craft warnings, cancellation of the race shall be the responsibility of the Race Committee.

3. If any unusual or unclassified situations arise affecting the race, the Race Committee may, at its discretion, take a vote of all participating club coaches/delegates to arrive at a decision.

E. START AND FINISH

The type of start and the locations of the finish shall be as designated, subject to the approval of the Board. The finish line shall be so designated by markers or flags.

F. ESCORT BOATS – DISTANCE RACES

1. Official escort boats must be provided.

2. Escort boats for distance races will be mandatory for each crew a club enters. In races with six paddlers to a crew and no changes or substitutes, the escort boat shall be optional. All marine and U.S. Coast Guard rules will apply.

3. Unsafe conditions due to an escort boat being overcrowded with spectators or helpers may result in that boat being declared unfit as an escort boat by the Race Committee. For safety purposes, all U.S. Coast Guard rules will apply.

4. On all starts, escort boats will be prohibited in the field of racing canoes for a minimum of ten minutes or as specified otherwise. The field will be defined as an imaginary square boundary from the lead canoe to the last canoe and the first canoe on the farthest left to the first canoe on the farthest right.

5. Insurance is mandatory. Refer to Article V.

G. REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY – DISTANCE RACES

Participating clubs and paddlers must comply with the applicable sections of Rule III, Eligibility, and Rule IV, Registration.

1. A paddler not so registered for the current year may do so at the time the name is submitted on FORM HCRA 200, along with a paddler's classification card, Form HCRA 100.

2. This list may be updated at any time. However, the eligibility of a paddler will be in accordance with the rules of Registration and Eligibility. Form HCRA 400 must be submitted one week prior to the forthcoming race for a club to be eligible to participate in the race.

3. On race day, Form HCRA 410 must be submitted in duplicate. This is the final entry form. Paddlers paddling the race must have their names appearing on this form.

4. Names appearing on Form HCRA 410 must also be on Forms HCRA 400, 200 and 100. Contrary to this requirement will result as paddler ineligibility causing a crew to be disqualified or penalized.

H. CLASS DIVISIONS – LONG DISTANCE

Invitational races may have three (3) class divisions, *i.e.*, "KOA", "Non-KOA," and "Open". The following conditions shall apply:

1. Canoes used in each class division (Koa, Non-Koa and Open) shall conform to the canoe design specifications for each class as set forth under Article V of these rules.

2. An "Open" class division race may be held only if "Koa" and "Non-Koa" class division races are also held.

3. "Koa" and "Non-Koa" class divisions may race together. The "Open" class division must race separately and apart from the "Koa" and "Non-Koa" class divisions. There shall be an equitable time lapse between a "Koa" and "Non-Koa" class division race and an "Open" class division race based on the length of each racing event.

4. Prizes and/or awards for the "Open" class division shall not exceed in value those given in the "Koa" and "Non-Koa" class divisions.

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ARTICLE XII. – PROTESTS

A. A Fee of $25.00 will accompany any written protest filed. Protest forms shall be provided by HCRA.

B. All protests or complaints of rule violations shall be made to the Race Rules Committee, within 30 minutes after the posting of results on the official scoreboard for the event being protested. The time of the posting will be prominently displayed on the results posted on the official scoreboard. Protests shall be submitted by a coach or his representative on an official form (HCRA 1000) provided by HCRA. Coaches involved in a protest shall be notified immediately. In addition to the written protest (HCRA Form 1000), the Race Rules Committee should endeavor to hear from the protesting club's coaches, if doing so will further inform the specifics of the protest. While the Race Rules Committee is hearing and reviewing the facts surrounding the protest, only coaches, HCRA club delegates, officials involved and/or others designated by the Race Commissioner shall be present. After the hearing is completed, the Committee shall immediately exclude all persons, deliberate on the testimony and evidence and render a decision. Protests which have been acted upon shall become a part of HCRA's permanent record. (rev. 12/2002) The Race Rules Committee may use any and all evidence it deems necessary to arrive at a decision for a protest which may include video, whether official or private. (rev. 12/2008, 12/2016)

C. The Race Rules Committee will settle all protests and announce its decision before the end of the regatta.

D. All decisions as determined by the Race Rules Committee on protests shall be final. A written copy of the Committee's decision (Form HCRA 1000a) will be provided to the clubs involved.

E. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded.

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ARTICLE XIII. – PENALTIES/DISQUALIFICATIONS

A. Any violation of the foregoing paragraphs may result in the disqualification of the crew involved, at the discretion of the Race Committee. The Race Commissioner and/or Race Rules Committee, at their discretion, may levy fines during the regattas or races for violations of the Race Rules and/or Code of Ethics. In lieu of immediate payment of a fine, promissory notes may be accepted by the Race Commissioner or Race Committee. Any such promissory note shall be in the form attached. Fines levied may be appealed in writing to the board of directors within 30 days but any disqualifications which affect the outcome of the race shall stand.

B. Equipment violations as specified in Article V of these rules shall be the disqualification of all crews using such equipment in that race.

C. The penalty for flag violations shall be the disqualification of the crew.

D. Interference, finishing in the wrong lane, turning on the wrong flags, or violations called by a regatta official shall be the disqualification of the crew.

E. If a disqualification is called by an official, a copy of Form HCRA 1001 shall be issued to the club(s) involved, immediately upon confirmation of the violation.

F. ESCORT BOAT VIOLATIONS

The penalty for an escort boat entering the field of racing canoes without permission of the Race Commissioner and/or his/her Race Committee shall be the adding of 15 minutes to the canoe that the escort boat is escorting. Two warnings by a race official or the Race Committee to an escort boat to keep away from a canoe or any other infraction shall be the disqualification of the canoe club the boat is escorting.

G. ILLEGAL AND INELIGIBLE PADDLER

The penalty for a club using an illegal paddler shall be disqualification of the crew and a fine of $300.00. The fine of $300.00 must be paid by the canoe club and until paid, the club may not enter any further event of a regatta on a race day, nor any future regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this disqualification.

1. A canoe club disqualified and penalized and in the process of settling such debt, must receive permission of the Race Committee to enter the course and to continue participation in a regatta or race.

2. A crew of a canoe club who proceeds on the water to enter an event without permission shall be warned and asked to leave the course. Failure to do so will involve another $300.00 fine or disqualification of the entire crew or both.

3. The second offense of using an illegal paddler during the same calendar year shall be a fine of $500.00. The fine must be paid by the canoe club before the club may enter any future regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this disqualification and fine.

4. a. The penalty for a club using an ineligible paddler shall be disqualification of a crew and a fine of $150.00.

b. The disqualification and penalty may not apply if a paddler's classification and eligibility, as determined using the paddler's race history in the HCRAPaddler™ database, conforms to Article II, B, 3. If necessary, the paddler may be reclassified on the day of the race.

5. For purposes of definition:
Illegal Paddler: A paddler identified as one that is paddling out of his/her classification, under another person's name, and as follows:

a. One that is paddling under another's name – *i.e.* impersonating another paddler. **Incorrect paddler identification cards placed into the Final Entry List will be considered an illegal paddler.**

b. Modification or tampering of a paddler's identification card will also constitute an illegal paddler violation.

c. One who is out of classification – *i.e.* a higher classification attempting to paddle in a lower classification. For example: An Open attempting to paddle Novice, a Novice A attempting to paddle Novice B, a 16 attempting to paddle Novice.

d. One who is paddling in the wrong age category – *i.e.* a 40 attempting to paddle 50, a 16 attempting to paddle 13.

e. One that is paddling in the wrong gender – *i.e.* a male(s) in a female crew or a female(s) in a male crew, a mixed crew that is not three males and three females.

Ineligible Paddler: A paddler that has raced too many events, an incorrect combination of events, or whose data was erroneously entered or inputted into HCRAPaddler™ system or successor database. A data-entry inputting error may include a misspelled name, incorrect date of birth, or incorrect gender selection at time of data-entry.

H. CONFIRMATION OF PADDLERS

Confirmation of paddlers will be done using the HCRA approved ID card. (rev 12/2003)

I. UNOFFICIAL CANOES

The penalty for entering an unofficial canoe or for failing to remove an unofficial canoe when asked to do so by an official shall result in a fine of $500.00. If the fine is not paid by the next event, the club will not be permitted to participate until it is. Subsequent fines may be levied at the discretion of the Race Director.

J. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Unsportsmanlike conduct by a club or any of its members includes but is not limited to: any violations of the code of ethics (page iv), fighting, drinking of alcoholic beverages during the regatta(s). Failure to heed the direction(s) of an official, etc. shall result in a fine of $500.00 which must be paid by the canoe club before they can enter any future regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this disqualification and fine.

K. NO WARM UP RUNS ALLOWED

Canoes shall proceed directly to the starting line prior to the race. A canoe that ignores a warning from any official boat to proceed directly to the starting line shall be fined $100.00. Further, the official starter may start the race without waiting for any canoe that ignores a warning from the official boat to proceed directly to the line. The fine of $100.00 must be paid by the canoe club and until paid, the club may not enter any further event of a regatta on a race day, nor any future regatta or race. The regatta or race shall not be interrupted or stopped because of this penalty. No canoe may practice on the race course after 7:30 a.m. on race day. (rev. 11/2013)

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ARTICLE XIV. – RACE RULES AMENDMENTS

A. The proposed amendments to the race rules of this Association shall be submitted in writing to the Race Rules Committee for preliminary approval no later than fifty (50) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Committee will then meet to discuss, amend, and/or add to the submitted proposals. The Race Rules Chairman shall then present the Committee's final proposals to each member association in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

B. The Race Rules Chairman will again present the Committee's final proposals to all member clubs present at the Annual Meeting. The member clubs shall then discuss and vote on the proposed amendments.

C. A record of amendments to the race Rules shall be listed under this Article. The record will include the actual amendment voted on, any "housekeeping" changes that the amendment has incurred and the vote tally of the amendment. (added 12/2007)

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ARTICLE XV. – GUIDELINES FOR HOST ASSOCIATIONS AT STATES (rev. 12/2002)

A 1. The Host Association provides time for an "on-site" inspection of the proposed location for the races (we understand that some sites have been pre-approved by past Championships). This inspection by representatives of each Association, the Race Commissioner, Race Secretary, and Officers of HCRA should take place prior to the annual meeting each year.

2. The Host Association shall have a plan for an alternative race site for the State Championship Race when such need arises. An alternate site plan is subject to all provisions of this Article. An inspection of the proposed alternative race site by representatives of each Association, the Race Commissioner, Race Secretary, and Officers of HCRA should take place prior to the annual meeting each year.

B. Information should be provided by the Host Association regarding hotel/other accommodations to Associations for their consideration. It is up to each club to make their own arrangements thereafter.

C. The Host Association shall also provide names and phone numbers of bus services whom they know to be reputable.

D. The Host Association provides the program, to be distributed or sold to all those present at the race. The money received for production of the program should be used to defray the expenses in producing the program.

E. The layout at the site for member clubs should be the responsibility of the Host Association, keeping in mind the needs of larger clubs participating and those clubs who share the use of our koa canoes. The Race Commissioner and Race Secretary should be kept informed during the planning stages.

F. The Host Association shall work with the Race Commissioner on all matters of logistics concerning the race site, etc. They shall also, along with the Race Commissioner, give a continuous update on all matters relating to this event to HCRA Board.

G. The Host Association shall not sign any contracts or arrange for any areas relating to expenditures without confirmation from the HCRA Treasurer or designee and Board of Directors. All matters relating to the spending of funds for the State Championship Race should have full approval of the HCRA Treasurer or designee.

H. The sale of any merchandise for fundraising for HCRA shall be under the control of HCRA itself, not the Host Association, *i.e.* t-shirts, etc. The Host Association, and any other Association, may provide bids from businesses to the Treasurer or designee who may discuss this with a proposed HCRA merchandise committee for consideration. The net monies received shall be for the benefit of HCRA as a whole.

I. No written contracts may be signed without approval from the HCRA Treasurer or designee and/or Board by the Host Association.

J. Medals and trophies are provided by HCRA each year. The expenses shall be borne by HCRA, not the Host Association.

K. The Host Association determines the number of honorees to be allowed from each Association. The Host Association is responsible for providing the gift/award for each honoree.

L. At the request of the Race Commissioner, the Host Association shall provide proof of a certified racing course. This survey shall be done by a Hawaii certified survey agency. (12/2009)

ADDENDUM A.
HAWAIIAN RACING CANOE HULLS – DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

I. GENERAL

The design specifications set forth in this Addendum were unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association at its regular monthly meeting held on July 10, 1978. These specifications were taken from pages 8-16 inclusive of the document entitled Illustration of Hawaiian Koa Racing Canoe Hulls in Present Day Use (hereafter "Illustration"), prepared and copyrighted for HCRA in 1978 by Mr. George Downing. (Reference Section VI, Items A to M inclusive, and Section VII, Items A to M incl.) These specifications were adopted for the purpose of serving as measurement standards which racing canoes must meet in order to qualify for participation in HCRA sanctioned races and regattas.

At its July 10, 1978 meeting, the Board of Directors also qualified for participation canoes numbered 1 to 43 listed under Mr. Chris Faria's Original Documentation (refer to Illustration following Section II, page 3), provided they had not been modified since the date of Mr. Faria's measurements taken June 1, 1977 to October 5, 1977. If, for any reason, they had been modified, they would have to be inspected and required to meet the adopted specifications in order to qualify for participation in HCRA sanctioned races and regattas.

II. SPECIFICATION CHANGES

At the 1979 annual meeting, the membership approved the following change to the design specifications. When measuring canoes, fixed lead weights or equivalent (rather than people) shall be used to establish the 1,500-pound load requirement. These weights shall be located and equally distributed at the following three points: (a) center of the canoe (Station -0-); (b) 14 ft. aft of center (Station S-1); and (c) ft. forward of center (Station B-1).

III. RULES COVERING THE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS FOR HAWAIIAN KOA RACING CANOES

The following rules cover the design specifications for Hawaiian racing canoes referred to under HCRA's Race Rules, Article V. Equipment.

A. RULE – Maximum Length of Canoe

That the maximum length of a canoe that will be allowed to compete in the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association sanctioned or sponsored races will be 45 feet in overall length, which means from end of hull to end of hull, or end of manu to end of manu, or any combination thereof that represents the longest measured length. This length is to be determined by the use of a plumb bob or the establishment of a right angle from a level base line. Overall length – 45 feet.

B. RULE – Maximum Length of Load Water Line

That the maximum load water line length be 39 feet 0 inches plus a 5% allowance for design error, etc. This water line is to be determined by the use of the methods used to establish the measurement by the Committee. The method used is as described in the following:

The weight used in determining the load water line, where measurements are taken, is a total weight of 1,500 pounds, including weight of canoe and weight of each lead weight or equivalent. Example: if canoe weight is 400 pounds, then the lead weight placed in canoe must be 1,100 pounds.

Canoe must be rigged and balanced when water line is marked. Water must be calm with no swells or wind chops over ½ inch in height. Canals and rivers are the most suitable for these markings. Person marking the load water line should be in the water, independent and not touching the canoe other than to mark the water line at the designated stations, S-1, -0-, and B-1, which are determined prior to the canoe being set in the water. Markings should be made with a black grease marker that can be wiped off but will not wash away with water.

C. RULE – Minimum Load Water Line Dimensions at Stations

		Minimum Measurement
LWL S-1	located 14 feet aft of center of length	16-1/8 inch
LWL -0-	located in center of length of canoe	17 inches
LWL B-1	located 14 feet forward of center of length	11 inches

The above measurements are the smallest measurements that will be allowed at these stations at the load water line.

D. RULE – Minimum Load Water Line Stern Run Curve Measurements

That the minimum LWL Stern Run Curve Measurements at Station R-End, R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, and R8 shall be as listed in diagram in Illustration.

Stern run station measurements taken every three inches, starting from extreme end of water line for a total distance of two feet, working towards Station S-1.

The method used to determine stern run curve Stations R-End, R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, is the same as explained in Illustration, Page 8, Section VI.B.

Once the end of the water line on the stern is determined, you are then able to mark off Stations R-End to R8. Set the canoe back in the water, and mark the water line to establish your run curve measurements.
The dimensions of the LWL in the Illustration diagram are nine (9) inches from the end of the LWL at Station R-3. The measurement is 8-1/2 inches.

E. RULE – Minimum Load Water Line Bow Entrance Curve Measurements

That the minimum LWL bow entrance curve measurements at Stations E-End, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8, B-1 shall be as listed on Illustration diagram.

Bow entrance curve LWL measurements taken every three inches starting from end of LWL for a total distance of two feet towards Station B-1. Example of interpreting bow entrance curve as shown above. The dimensions of the LWL in the diagram are nine (9) inches from the end of the LWL, the measurement is five (5) inches.

The method used to determine bow entrance curve Stations E-End, E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8, is the same as explained in Illustration Page 7 Section VI.B.

Once the end of the water line on the bow is determined, you are then able to mark off Stations E-End to E8. Set the canoe back in the water, and mark the water line to establish your entrance curve measurements.

F. RULE – Minimum (1,500 pounds) Draft at Station -0-

That the minimum (1,500 pounds) draft at Station -0- shall be no less than 7-1/2 inches.

G. RULE – Minimum Freeboard at Station -0-

That the minimum freeboard at Station -0- shall be no less than 9-1/4 inches from the LWL to the top edge of the gunwale.

H. ROCKER MEASUREMENTS

a. The determination of B1 and S1 shall be 70% of the canoe length.
b. Measured from Station -0-, 35% for the forward section to B1, and from Station -0-, 35% aft to Station S1.

RULE – Minimum rocker Dimensions at Stations S-1, -0-, and B-1

That the minimum rocker dimensions at Station S-1, -0-, and B-1, shall be no less than two inches at Station S-1, zero inches at Station -0-, and four inches at Station B-1. Measurements taken from baseline at Station points.

I. RULE – *Ama* and *'Iako* Rigging

Ama and *'Iako* rigging allowed only on the left (port) side of canoe for all regatta races. *Ama* may be rigged on either side for all open ocean races.

J. RULE – *'Iako* Blocking

'Iako blocking on *na pepeiao* for the purpose of balancing *ama* may not be more than five inches from bottom of *'iako* to gunwale.

K. RULE – *'Iako* Rigging Location

'Iako must be rigged behind 2nd and 4th seats only. (As amended at Board of Directors meeting, July 2, 1981.)

L. RULE – Concave or Straight Line Curves in Load Water Line

No concave line curves or straight lines are allowed in the load water line (LWL) overall length curve. Elliptical lines must be used when conforming to (LWL) water line measurements. Refer to diagram in Illustration for what is meant by straight line V's and concave water lines.

M. RULE – Concave or Straight Line Curves in Cross Sections of Water Line Draft

No concave or straight line curves are allowed in the cross sections of water line draft. Only parabolic elliptical convex lines permitted when conforming to LWL draft shape. Straight lines permitted in freeboard area only.

IV. CONDENSED RULES

Rule A Maximum Length of Canoe – 45 feet

Rule B Maximum Load Water Line Length – 39'0"

Rule C Minimum Widths at Stations S-1, -0-, B-1 shall be:

- S-1 width 16-1/8" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- -0- width 17" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- B-1 width 11" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error

Rule D Minimum Widths at Stations R-End to R8 shall be:

- R-End width 0" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R1 width 4" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R2 width 7" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R3 width 8" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R4 width 10" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R5 width 11" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R6 width 12" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R7 width 13" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- R8 width 14" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error

Rule E Minimum Width at Stations E-End to E8 shall be:

- E-End width 0" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E1 width 2" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E2 width 3" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E3 width 5" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E4 width 6" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E5 width 7" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E6 width 7" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E7 width 8" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error
- E8 width 9" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error

Rule F Minimum Draft at Station -0- or Deepest Part of Canoe, shall be:

7" plus a 2% design and/or measurement error

Rule G Minimum Freeboard at Station -0- shall be:

9.1"

Rule H Minimum Rocker of Bottom (Reel Curve) at Stations S-1 and B-1 shall be:

- S-1 2" minimum rocker
- B-1 4" minimum rocker

Rule I *Ama* and *'Iako* rigging allowed only on the left (port) side of canoe for all regatta races where turning around a flag is required. *Ama* may be rigged on either side for all open ocean races.

Rule J *'Iako* blocking on *pepeiao* for the purpose of balancing ama, may not be more than 5" from bottom of *'iako* to top of gunwale.

Rule K *'Iako* must be rigged behind 2nd and 4th seats only.

Rule L No concave line curves or straight lines are allowed in the load water line curve length.

Rule M No concave or straight line curves are allowed in the cross sections of the load water line draft. Only parabolic, elliptical, convex lines are permitted when conforming to the load water line draft shape.

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ADDENDUM B. – GUIDELINES FOR RACE CANCELLATIONS

1. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for conducting a "safe outrigger canoe race."

2. Cancellation of races will occur under the following conditions:
   a. Adverse weather conditions
   b. Medical/Health conditions (*i.e.* sewage spill)
   c. Darkness
   d. Other reasons as determined by the Race Director in conjunction with the Race Committee

3. The Race Director is responsible for making the announcement of race cancellation.

4. The Race Director shall consult with Race Committee and the sponsor(s) of the race, if necessary, in making any decision to cancel the race.

5. Cancellation based on adverse weather conditions may include the following:
   a. Winds in excess of 25 knots (small craft warnings)
   b. Wave heights 12-15 feet
   c. Current and other tidal changes affecting the course.
   d. In addition to the above conditions, the Race Director and Race Committee shall consult with official boat captain(s), listen to marine weather and all other sources, as is necessary, in determining whether a race should be conducted.

6. The announcement should be made the morning of the race, except where circumstances exist which allow for cancellation the night before or earlier.

7. Cancellation Alternatives

   a. The Race Director, along with the Race Committee, shall consult with the sponsor(s) of the race to determine if there is an alternate course or an alternate date and time. The Race Director and Race Committee, along with other interested parties (sponsor(s), representatives from competing crews, etc.) shall consider the logistics of having an alternate course or alternate date. The final decision will be left to the Race Committee, and Race Director, with input from the sponsor(s).

   b. Any decisions regarding entry fee refunds, logistics, travel arrangements, other expense considerations, and who should be responsible for arrangements or reimbursements shall be left to the discretion of the Race Director and Race Committee.

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ADDENDUM C. – PROMISSORY NOTE

PROMISSORY NOTE

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned promises to pay to the order of the Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association, P.O. Box 2050; Kihei, Hawaii 96753, or at such other address as the holder hereof may designate in writing, in the lawful money of the United States of America, the sum of _____ and No/100 Dollars ($_____.00), without interest, ON DEMAND.

If this note is not paid when due and is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if suit is brought to enforce collection hereof, the borrower shall pay all costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, incurred by payee or holder of this note in connection therewith.

The Club and all endorsers, guarantors, sureties, accommodation parties hereof and all other persons liable or to become liable for all or any part of this indebtedness, severally waive demand, presentment for payment, notice of dishonor, protest and notice of protest, and expressly agree that this note and any payment coming due hereunder may be extended or otherwise modified from time to time without in any way affecting liability hereunder.

The laws of the State of Hawaii shall govern the interpretation, effect and enforcement of this note and all amendments and extensions thereto, and any and all collateral and related documents, including, where and if applicable, security agreements, financing statements, purchase agreements, and any and all amendments thereto.

CLUB _____

By _____
(*Print Name:*_____)

Its: _____
(State position with Club)