

Bull Session

news and comment of the El Toro Class
August 10, 2013 #484

The 2013 Hawaii El Toro National Championship Series

ended with a "Hawaiian Luau" presented by the host Kaneohe yacht Club. In grand style the buffet offering was all tropical "Island Style" foods. The tables were decorated with tropical leaves, flowers and pineapple halves all cut and ready to eat. Yal Lim started with an explanation of each dish, what it was made of, how it would taste and its island origins as a food. Yal said that if you did not like the 'Poke', both 'Ahi' and 'Tako', just bring it to him and he would finish it. The rice was seasoned with 'Furakaki', then 'Kalau Pork', 'Chicken Long Rice', grilled 'Opah', a local fish, tossed locally grown greens with 'Mango Poppy Seed' dressing and if that was not enough the desserts were 'Haupia' coconut custard, Vanilla and Chocolate Cake. The coffee was 'Island Kona' and the white wine was Napa Valley! And the pickiest eaters in the class really did enjoy the food!

The obligatory "Class National Meeting" was held with an appreciation for the smaller sail used by the 'Silver Fleet'. Sailmakers from Ullman, North and mainland Quantum were asked to design and provide specifications so the class can certify a design for the future. A few mainland Juniors used these island sized sails and had a great time sailing.

Next years National Series, 2014, will be held on California's largest fresh water lake "Clear Lake" on Saturday, Sunday and Monday June 14-15-16th. The regatta will be partnered with Konocti Yacht Club.

The major discussion was how to get the Hawaiian El Toro Junior and Senior fleet to Santa Cruz for the 2015 National Series. With the help of Mike Ohashi, general sales manager of Hawaii for Horizon Lines container Shipping Company, Jesse Andrews, Kaneohe Yacht Club's Junior Program Director will be lining up his juniors and getting them ready for another Pacific Ocean racing adventure. Jesse, the Hawaii and Waikiki Yacht Club directors are all open to the idea. 2015 could be another 60+ boat El Toro National Championship Fleet in California!

Along with the traditional wood bowl trophies, Mike Ohashi presented each mainland boat owner with a Hawaiian sticker, for their boat, showing the fact that 'this boat' has made the trip 'over the rainbow' on a tropical sailing adventure.

The sailing weather was better than typical for Kaneohe Bay. After the trophy presentation ended the rain started. It has not stopped yet and is forecasted to last until next Tuesday.

I sailed my little racing boat in the tropical waters of Hawaii for seven days straight, had a great time visiting my sister, racing with the local sailors and will now learn whether a Costco Photo ID Card is acceptable to TSCA to let me on the plane for home.

2013 calendar

Pinecrest Worlds	August 24-25	Pinecrest Lake
Totally Dinghy	September 14-15	Richmond YC
El Toro Stampede	October 6	Richmond YC
Cork Screw	October 19	Redwood City

El Toro 'Senior' National Championship Series locations

2013 Hawaii

2014 Clear Lake

2015 Santa Cruz

2016 Pinecrest

2017 ?

Fremont Sailing Club sailing schedule:

Aug 25 - Fall

Sep 8 - Fall

Sep 22 - Fall