

**O'AHU HAWAIIAN CANOE
RACING ASSOCIATION**

**2017
RACE
RULES**

ARTICLE XVII: Moloka'i Hoe Race Rules

A. Introduction

Moloka'i Hoe is produced and administered by the O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA) Moloka'i Hoe Committee. Moloka'i Hoe is the property of the title sponsor and OHCRA, which hereby reserves all rights of any nature whatsoever. Any use of the race, its name, equipment or material associated herewith without expressed written consent of the title sponsor and OHCRA is prohibited. Moloka'i Hoe Race Rules here in must be identical to the Race Rules on the Moloka'i Hoe website.

B. Entry Eligibility

This race shall be open to all canoe clubs or organizations submitting an entry application and meeting the requirements of the Moloka'i Hoe Committee. OHCRA Race Rules will apply to this race unless herein modified. Merging of canoe clubs may be allowed. Each club or organization must submit a complete entry application on an official entry form provided by OHCRA. No entry will be accepted unless all the requirements herein are complied with. The Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application.

C. Entry Requirements

1. Must submit completed **Entry Form Application** by the specified deadline date.
2. Must submit all **Moloka'i Hoe Waiver Forms** by the specified time on the deadline date.
3. Must attach **HCRA Canoe Specification Form**. This form must be received before canoes are shipped to Moloka'i. Non-compliance with this rule will result in refusal of transporting canoe to Moloka'i.
4. Must pay entry fee before canoe is shipped to Moloka'i. The Race Director will assign the canoe shipping date for each entry.
5. The Moloka'i Hoe Committee may refuse to accept any entries received after the deadline date.
6. It is mandatory that the coaches for each participating crew attend the coaches meeting held the day before the race. The crew may be disqualified if the coach does not attend the meeting.

D. Paddlers Eligibility

1. The final selected race crew will consist of nine (9) male paddlers in junior, open, 40+, and 50+; and twelve (12) male paddlers in the 55+, 60+ and 65+. Minimum age must be not less than 18 years of age as of the day of the race for the adult divisions, there will be no exceptions. The Final Entry must be submitted no later than the specified time prior to the race date. All paddlers will be issued an official WRIST BAND which must be worn at all times during the course of the race. This is MANDATORY and will be issued when the final crew list is submitted.

1 Junior Divison

- 2 a. An escort boat used for any Junior division crew entry will need to be 22 feet
3 or longer.
4 b. A coach of a junior division crew will need to be at least 21 years of age.
5 c. A helper will be required for all junior crews.
6 d. A crew will consist of nine (9) paddlers.
7 e. The Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to any crew.
8 f. A crew member must be at least sixteen (16) years of age but not older than
9 eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the Moloka'i Hoe.
10 g. A 16 or 17 year old paddler cannot participate in another adult crew. An 18
11 year old has the choice as a legal adult to participate in either the junior or
12 adult divisions.
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- 14 2. It is the entrant's responsibility to see that their paddlers are physically fit and
15 capable of participating in a marathon canoe paddling event. If there is a question
16 regarding a paddlers physical fitness, it shall be the entrant's responsibility to
17 provide a medical clearance form and obtain the Moloka'i Hoe Committee's
18 approval before the paddler enters the race.
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20 3. All crew members must be able to swim.
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22 4. Each paddler must sign designated liability and publicity waivers.
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24 5. Merging clubs: Paddlers from different clubs may merge to form a crew provided
25 that each paddler gets written permission to merge from their respective clubs
26 designated representative and submits these same letters of permission to the
27 Race Director for approval.
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29 6. All participants who are not a current member of an HCRA club will be charged an
30 insurance assessment at the time of registration.
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E. Canoe Hull, Rigging And Equipment

1. All canoes (including rigging, 'iako, ama, hull shape above waterline, at waterline, and below waterline) must meet current OHCRA Hawaiian design canoe specifications.
2. Only koa canoes that have been measured and certified under OHCRA Hawaiian design canoe specifications for koa canoes will be allowed to race in the Koa Division.
3. Only non-koa canoes that have been measured and certified under OHCRA Hawaiian design canoe specifications for non-koa canoes will be allowed to race in the Non-Koa Division.
4. No fins or keels will be allowed on ama in either division.
5. The minimum racing weight of any canoe, excluding the ama, 'iako, and tying cord is set at 400 lbs. Minimum weight of hulls constructed before August 1, 1998, shall be no less than 350 lbs. Lead weights must be permanently affixed to the canoe to bring the weight to 400 lbs. The added weight(s) must be evenly distributed between seats 2 and 5 and must be permanently affixed to the bottom of the seats to bring the hull weight to 400 lbs. Only certified lead weights must be used and must be permanently bolted or screwed to the seats of the canoes throughout the entire race. Weights must not be removed during the race and must remain secured until the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee give clearance. Adding weights to a canoe will be the responsibility of the entrant. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee must certify all added weights.
6. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to weigh any canoe regardless of any other authorities prior weight certification.
7. Canvas or other covering on the canoe is MANDATORY.
8. No sails or other artificial means of propulsion are permitted on the canoe.
9. No mechanical means of bailing water out of a canoe are allowed.
10. No foot support or braces of any kind are permitted inside the canoe. Only non-skid materials are allowed.
11. During the race each entry shall have its assigned identification symbol permanently displayed on the front manu of its canoe. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee will assign this identification.
12. An inspection of all equipment used in the race will be conducted at Hale O Lono Harbor prior to the race.
13. At the discretion of the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee, any equipment that substantially differs from the existing traditional Hawaiian design is subject to rejection of said equipment.
14. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee shall have the final decision of approving or disapproving any entry, any canoe or any equipment.

- 1 15. All canoes entered in any OHCRA sanction event during the regatta and distance
2 seasons (excluding preseason and postseason) shall have their ama to 'iako and
3 'iako to hull attached "rigged" with multiple cord lashings, no "quick straps".
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5 16. Cameras can be used in or on the canoe during distance races. Cameras will not
6 be allowed in or on canoes during flat course or surf course regatta races.
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8 **F. Paddles**

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10 Paddles must be single bladed and can be made from any material except that it must
have visible wood in it which can be solid or veneer. OHCRA will consider bamboo as a
wood. The paddles can be made by any construction method and can be solid or hollow.
Extra paddles may be carried in each canoe during a race.

16 **G. Water Safety**

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19 1. Each entry must provide U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices
20 (PFD) for each person that boards their escort boat and each paddler in the canoe.
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22 2. Each entry is responsible for complying with all applicable State, Federal, and U.S.
23 Coast Guard regulations and requirements.
24
25 3. Each entry is responsible for assuring that each paddler, coach, helper and/or
26 guest are water safe.
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28 4. Each entry is responsible for providing basic first-aid supplies.
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30 5. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to place an official on any
31 entrant's escort boat.
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33 6. Each entry is responsible for providing adequate nourishment and liquids for all
34 crew members on the canoe and each person, including the assigned official, on
35 the escort/auxiliary boat.
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37 7. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to disqualify any crew if
38 the Race Director determines that the crew is not capable of participating in or
39 finishing the race within a reasonable time.
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41 **H. Sponsorship Signage**

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43 1. Any signage used by the entrant must be pre-approved by the OHCRA Moloka'i
44 Hoe Committee. The OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee reserves the right to
45 remove any signage which is not in good taste or which sabotages the promotional
46 rights of the title sponsors and the presenting sponsor. Use of conflicting
47 sponsorship signage on canoes, escort boats, and the athletes themselves, shall
48 be left to the discretion of the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee.
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50 2. Signage on a canoe must be between the two (2) 'iako of each canoe. Signage on
51 escort boat may be any place except port side of bow where the OHCRA Moloka'i
52 Hoe Committee requires placement of the assigned identification for each entry.
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- 1 3. Any flags used by the entrant must be pre-approved by the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe
2 Committee.
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- 4 4. Race sponsor signage may be put on any canoe or escort boat used in the
5 Moloka'i Hoe Race at the request of the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee.
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- 7 5. Final determination for use of sponsorship signage will be left to the discretion and
8 judgment of the OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe Committee.
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10 I. Course Rules

- 11 1. Start Of The Race
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- 14 a. All canoes shall be ready to start before the time set for the beginning of the
15 race at Hale O Lono Harbor. The starting line for the race will be
16 approximately 300 feet seaward to Hale O Lono Harbor entrance groin.
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- 18 b. All canoes will assemble behind the starting line.
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- 20 c. The race will begin at approximately 8:00 a.m.
- 21
- 22 d. Any air horn or other sound device and the raising of the green flag will signal
23 the start of the race, or other method as described at the coaches meeting.
- 24
- 25 e. Any canoe over the starting line at the start will be penalized ten (10) minutes
26 which will be added to their official finish time.
- 27
- 28 f. All crews must start and finish in the same racing jersey which can be same
29 colored short sleeve, long sleeve or sleeveless.
- 30
- 31 2. Course
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- 33 a. The course shall be from the starting line at Hale O Lono Harbor, Moloka'i to
34 the finish line at Duke Kahanamoku Beach, Kālia, Waikīkī Beach.
- 35
- 36 b. A Crew may follow any course to the finish line provided that it rounds the
37 orange bouy at the channel entrance to the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel
38 before crossing the finish line.
- 39
- 40 c. Specific diagrams will be provided at the coaches meetings. Entries are
41 encouraged to visit the finish line area before the race.
- 42
- 43 3. Paddlers And Relief Paddlers
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- 45 a. The final selected race crew will consist of (9) nine male paddlers in junior,
46 open, 40+, and 50+, and 12 male paddlers in the 55+, 60+ and 65+. Minimum
47 age must be not less than 18 years of age as of the day of the race for the
48 adult divisions. These names shall be submitted to the assigned race official
49 before 12 noon the day before the race and must have come from the Crew
50 List Form.
- 51
- 52 b. There may be no more than (6) male paddlers in any one canoe at any time
53 during the race.
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- 1 c. Starting and relief paddlers may be used at the discretion of the coach.
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3 d. The first change of paddlers will take place, at the discretion of the Race
4 Director, no earlier than La'au Point or thirty (30) minutes, or no later than
5 forty-five (45) minutes. An official boat will signal the end of the time period as
6 described at the coaches meeting.
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8 e. All canoes must pass between La'au Point and a prescribed official boat that
9 will be stationed at a set distance from La'au Point.
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11 g. The last change shall be before the channel marker off of the Hilton Hawaiian
12 Village Hotel.
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14 h. Each canoe must finish the race with six (6) male paddlers in the canoe to
15 qualify for placement and awards.
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17 i. All paddlers will be issued an official WRIST BAND which must be worn at all
18 times during the course of the race. This is MANDATORY and will be issued
19 when the final crew list is submitted.
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- 21 4. Swamping Or Overturning Of Canoe
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23 a. If a canoe swamps or overturns after the start of the race, the canoe may be
24 righted and bailed out and will be allowed to continue in the race. No
25 mechanical devices will be allowed throughout the race to bail a canoe.
26
27 b. Relief paddlers and additional qualified persons on an escort boat may assist
28 in righting and bailing out a swamped canoe.
29
30 c. The escort boat will standby and render any assistance to the swamped
31 canoe but must not tow a swamped canoe in the direction of the finish line
32 while the canoe is officially entered in the race.
33
34 d. All escort boats must be equipped with bridle straps in the event that a canoe
35 needs to be towed. Failure to have bridle straps aboard the escort boat will
36 result in a penalty.
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- 38 5. Escort Boat/Auxiliary Boat
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40 a. Each entry must have one (1) escort powerboat to accompany them
41 throughout the race.
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43 b. Each entry may have one (1) auxiliary powerboat. The auxiliary boat assists in
44 the retrieving of paddlers during the substitute changes. It is suggested that
45 each entry have an auxiliary boat. However, auxiliary boats are optional.
46
47 c. All escorts boats and auxiliary boats must have a Moloka'i Hoe ID number
48 that has been issued by Moloka'i Hoe officials. If a powerboat does not have a
49 Moloka'i Hoe ID number, they will be asked to leave the course.
50
51 d. All escort boats must have bridle straps to tow a canoe and a 3'x5' red flag
52 that can be flown from the escort boat in the event of an emergency.
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54 e. All escort/auxiliary boats must provide a copy of the boats registration to the
55 OHCRA Moloka'i Hoe race officials at registration.

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- f. All escort/auxiliary boat(s) must meet the minimum U.S. Coast Guard requirements. For safety purposes, all escort boats must meet a minimum size of 22' in overall length as per Coast Guard form CG-5397 latest revision, #6 Overall Dimensions under II. Vessel Data and Dimensions. If an auxiliary boat is used in conjunction with an escort boat then each craft must meet a minimum size of 19' in overall length and be registered with a crew number. VHF radios will be installed in the escort/auxiliary boat(s), no "hand-helds" will be allowed.

- g. All escort/auxiliary boat(s) must be equipped with a two-way VHF radio. Only Marine Band (VHF) Radio communication is acceptable. Any entry whose escort/auxiliary boat(s) does not have working two-way VHF radio will NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE. All escort/auxiliary boats must pass through the radio communication checkpoint at Hale O Lono Harbor on race day.

- h. It is recommended that all escort boats have a GPS on board.

- i. For safety purposes, all escort/auxiliary boat(s) must have a combined U.S. Coast Guard approved carrying capacity to accommodate a minimum of nine (9) male paddlers, (1) race official, and any additional passengers along with the U.S. Coast Guard required equipment.

- J. There will be mandatory insurance for all escort boats. It is recommended that all escort/auxiliary boat(s) carry a minimum of \$300,000 liability insurance coverage.

- K. Liability Waivers for Escort Boat/ Auxiliary Boat:
A form furnished by OHCRA will be completed by the escort/auxiliary skippers with the information pertaining to his craft and turned over to the Moloka'i Hoe Race Committee. The deadline for submitting the name of an escort/auxiliary boat and its skipper will be no later than Noon on the Saturday before the race. Crews will not be entered without the completed forms.
Escort/auxiliary boat skippers will be furnished with liability waiver forms to be signed by all personnel boarding their craft. Each boat skipper will turn these liability wavier forms over to the race officials before 6:00am race day.
A copy fo the escort/auxiliary boat registration must be provided at the time of registration.

- i. Each escort/auxiliary boat must follow behind its assigned canoe throughout the race, except for swamped and overturned canoes. It can at no time come along side or ahead of the canoe except for during the transfer of relief paddlers, supplies, or in the case of an emergency, and it must make way without deliberately blocking, or causing interference, or wake to any approaching canoe.
At no time will an escort/auxiliary deliberately cause a wake to assist their own canoe or interfere with another canoe.
At all times, escort/auxiliary boats must maintaina safe distance form canoes and other boats.
Canoes always have the right-of way over escort/auxiliary boats.
Escort/auxiliary boats cannot block or cause a wake to approaching canoes.

- m. A Moloka'i Hoe Adult Waiver and Release of Liability and Promotional Rights form must be signed in addition to the boat waiver.

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- n. Coaching and directing from the escort/auxiliary boat is permitted.
 - o. Escort/auxiliary boats cannot be used to transport any articles to a canoe. However, any qualified person may pass refreshments or other articles to a canoe from the water, this person need not be one of the nine (9) male paddlers.
 - p. Unsafe conditions due to an escort/auxiliary boat being overcrowded, or not meeting U.S. Coast Guard requirements or Moloka'i Hoe requirements, can be declared unfit or unseaworthy as an escort/auxiliary boat by the Moloka'i Hoe Committee. Said entries will not be allowed to participate.
 - q. Minors are not allowed on escort/auxiliary boats except participants in the junior divisions. The Moloka'i Hoe Committee will have the final decision on the approval or disapproval of any vessel used as an escort boat or auxiliary boat.
 - r. All escort boat drivers must provide a boat driver's license
6. Cancellation Of Race
- a. The race is subject to postponement or cancellation by the U.S. Coast Guard.
 - b. The race is subject to postponement or cancellation by the Moloka'i Hoe Committee upon receipt of information of weather conditions of such nature, which would in their opinion render the running of the race unsafe.
 - c. In case of the race being postponed or cancelled, the entries are responsible for returning all paddlers, personnel, and equipment to O'ahu.
 - d. All fees are non-refundable upon cancellation of any entry or cancellation of the race.
7. Finish Line
- a. All escort boats must do a visual "End of Race" radio check on the designated radio channel with the lead official boat before departing the race course. No powerboats are allowed to enter the channel leading to the Hilton Pier without permission from the lead official boat.
 - b. Relief crew members and crew members on the escort/auxiliary boat should follow the instructions of the pier personnel while unloading gear off of escort and auxiliary boats. Crews need to keep the pier clear and are asked to remove off loaded gear in a quick and timely manner to ensure everyone's safety.
 - c. The State Of Hawaii, City and County of Honolulu, and U.S. Army prohibit drinking of alcoholic beverages on the beach.
 - d. All crews must start and finish in the same racing jersey which can be same colored short sleeve, long sleeve or sleeveless.