



USA OUTRIGGER . POST OFFICE BOX 2931 . LA JOLLA . CALIFORNIA . 92038

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**San Diego, CA – USA Outrigger** ([www.usaoutrigger.com](http://www.usaoutrigger.com)) is proud to announce that our first **TEAM USA** regional development, training and recruiting program will be officially launched in beautiful Mission Bay on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Outrigger canoe racing has become a popular canoeing sport, with numerous clubs located around the world including the Southern California region which is already home to some of the top outrigger canoe paddlers in the USA. Outrigger Canoe Racing is the State sport of Hawaii and an interscholastic high school sport. Six-person outrigger canoes (or OC6) are among the most common used for sport use; single-person outrigger canoes (or OC1) are also very common.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held next to the Kai Elua race site since they are San Diego's original outrigger canoe club established in 1978 ([www.kaielua.com](http://www.kaielua.com)). Some of the fastest boys and girl's paddlers (Keiki's) will be recognized and awarded during the USA Outrigger ribbon-cutting ceremony because they are the future of our sport and should be able to have their dreams come true of one day being on **TEAM USA**.

The **TEAM USA** regional development, training and recruiting program will be managed by USA Outrigger Committee Chair, Raymond Vinole, who is a native San Diego resident currently living in Pacific Beach and also graduated from Mission Bay High School where he competed as a track and cross country runner.

"This has been a dream of mine for many years and that dream has finally come true and hopefully it will serve as on Olympic breeding ground for the future." said Vinole.

USA Outrigger is the only national organization that unifies all of the different areas of the US where outrigger racing is prevalent by gathering regional coaches and bringing teams together for competition.

USA Outrigger formally launched its national **TEAM USA** program on January 1, 2014. The Purpose of USA Outrigger is to promote the sport of Outrigger Racing in the United States both nationally and internationally, at all levels of competition and in all racing classes with the assistance of USA Canoe / Kayak (USACK), which is a member of the **United States Olympic Committee**.

For more information on this exciting opportunity, contact USA Outrigger Committee Chair, Raymond Vinole by cell: **858.405.2226** or email: [raymond@usaoutrigger.com](mailto:raymond@usaoutrigger.com) or go to [www.usaoutrigger.com](http://www.usaoutrigger.com) to learn more.