

# Hawaiian Outrigger Traditions

The following traditions should be respected and followed at all times.

- Tying ti leaves to the canoe brings good luck.
- Don't step over the boats at any time; walk around the canoe. Stepping over a canoe brings it bad luck. Respect the competition's boats as well.
- Refer to canoe parts by their Hawaiian names.
- Each canoe should be treated with the respect of a living person.
- Do not sit in the boat on dry land (except for instruction), as the canoe is considered sacred and part of you. Treat the canoe as a person.
- Do not swear or argue in or around the canoe. This brings bad luck and slows the canoe.
- Before each race the team gathers to give blessings and prayers of hope and thanksgiving.
- After each race the teammates greet each other and congratulate them on the race.
- When the canoes are on dry land, the nose of the canoe should point to the water. The early Hawaiians did this out of respect for the canoe and its spirit.