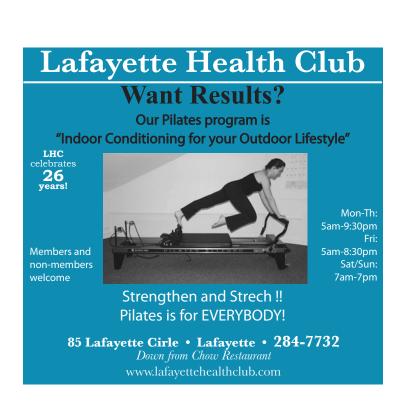
Oakland Strokes Wins Big at Long Beach Invitational By Jaime Zepeda

n April 28th and 29th, the Oakland Strokes squad went to the Long Beach Junior Regatta. The Junior Varsity and Varsity teams for the Women's and Men's teams faced resilient opponents from across California. The races were held at the Marine Stadium, which was originally constructed for the 1984 Olympics. The Strokes shined as if they were Olympians, with nine 1st places, six 2nd places, and four 3rd place medals. Lamorinda athletes have made Oakland Strokes their home, and they showcased their athletic skills at the event. In the Women's Varsity-8 team, Alzizah Koorji (Miramonte) coxswain. Julie Jones (Acalanes) in the stroke seat, Jessica Cherry (Campolindo), and Pia Hauch (Bentley) represented Lamorinda high schools. For

the Women's Junior Varsity-8 and 3V-8, Brittany Beck (Miramonte), Molly Castles (Bentley), Beth Goodwin (Miramonte), and Kendall Sandy (Miramonte) gave the strokes two 1st place finishes.

On the Men's side, the Varsity team gave Oakland Strokes two solid 2nd place medals. Thanks to the great effort by Alex Topacio (Campolindo) at coxswain, Garret Bell (Los Lomas) at stroke seat, Max Farrell (Bentley), Nathan Carbajal (De La Salle), James Lenczowski (Miramonte), Cole Williams (Campolindo), and Brent Watson (Miramonte) at bow, the Strokes barely missed 1st place two times. The Junior Varsity team faired equally well, with a 2nd place finish of their own. Alex Topacio (Campolindo), Garrett

Bell (Los Lomas), Max Farrell (Bentley), Nathan Carbajal (De La Salle), Evan Bontemps (Miramonte), Jason Luecker (Campolindo), Brent Watson (Miramonte), and Robert Chan (Miramonte), made notable contributions. Women's Novice and Frosh earned three 1st place medals, thanks in part to Dara Dickson (Acalanes), Dana Walsh (Miramonte), Kelly Bauer (Miramonte), Claire Grover (Miramonte), Piper Akol (Miramonte), and Nikki Dahlberg-Seeth (Miramonte). On the Men's side, Novice and Frosh earned one 1st place and two 3rd place medals. Notable contributions came from Daniel Migdale (Miramonte), Michael Schier (Miramonte), and Billy Deskin (Campolindo). For more information, visit the www.oaklandstrokes.org





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