

STEPHEN KINA (MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL - Class of 2006)

I played for Coach Clay for a little over 6 years, more than most of the players on Ikaika, and I was very privileged to not only be one of his players but to also have him as a friend. Coach Clay loved the game and he taught us to love the game to. He was very dedicated to teaching us and becoming great players both on and off the court, something that not much coaches can say they've done. He has done so much for me that I couldn't have done with other coaches such as going on trips to not only the outer islands but the mainland as well. The things Coach Clay did for us was just incredible, he was not only a coach but also someone who cared about us off the court.

Throughout the years playing under Coach Clay I've really matured. I came from being the hard head punk on the court to....well I never really changed from that but I really toned down haha. The Ikaika team was basically always undersized but Coach Clay taught us that size didn't matter but what mattered most was "Heart." Though Coach Clay expected us to play hard he always wanted us to play smart and be gentlemen and to me that's what separated him from being a good coach to a great one.

Coach Clay did a lot for me. He gave me so many opportunities that I believe no other coach could have provided. I loved going on trips and bonding with my team members. Ikaika was a 2nd family to me. I enjoyed playing with them more than I did at Moanalua. I'd have to say the trips we took were the best part of being with Ikaika. From Maui, to Kaua'i, to Las Vegas to California. I would always look forward to the trips we would take and the games we would play away from home.

Everything Coach Clay taught me I applied during my basketball years. I think playing with Coach Clay helped me start for 4 years at Moanalua High School. Even though my years of being an Ikaika player is done I'd say playing for Coach Clay was some of the best times, even though they were sometimes stressful they were worth it in the end. Even though I'm not playing it still doesn't mean I'm not part of the family. I know I will always be a member of Ikaika. Coach Clay and Auntie Brenda still open their arms to me letting me come to practice to help teach and even come on trips with them, which means a lot to me. Hopefully I can give back by helping Ikaika whenever I can and also applying everything I've learned in my life ahead.