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## **Pipeline masters 2024**

Stay up-to-date with Vans Pipe Masters action by following @Vans and @VansSurf on Instagram. For detailed coverage and surf highlights, visit Stab Magazine Costa Mesa, CALIF. The original action sports brand, Vans, is excited to announce the upcoming Vans Pipe Masters, taking place from December 8 to 20, 2024, on the legendary North Shore of Oahu. As a brand dedicated to fostering progress and celebrating youth culture's free-spirited mindset, Vans proudly supports the event-a platform showcasing the next generation of athletes redefining surfing and its cultural impact. The 2024 Vans Pipe Masters will feature an elite field of men's and women's surfers, handpicked by Vans and officially sanctioned by the World Surf League (WSL). This year, Vans is thrilled to collaborate with Muhammad Fatchurofi, a talented illustrator from Indonesia, who will bring unique artistic flair to the event. Vans Pipe Masters has a history of hosting local legends, including John Florence and Moana Jones-Wong's victories last year. The brand is dedicated to supporting grassroots Hawaiian organizations, such as Na Kama Kai, Sustainable Coastlines of Hawaiians. Vans also supports equality in surfing by offering equal prize money for both men and women, with a total prize purse of \$300,000. Surfers from around the world-including notable international and Hawaiian athletes-will have the opportunity to compete for the prestigious Vans Pipe Masters trophy. The event features an innovative leaderboard format, where surfers participate in three rounds, aiming to achieve their three highest-scoring rides. The Vans Pipe Masters: A Contest in Disarray Caity was keen to hit the waves, but Moana and Bettylou were more cautious, waiting for the tide to shift and the swell to settle by afternoon. The forecast was looking iffy, with variable winds and increasing swell, a gamble indeed. "It's not going to get any smaller out there," warned the Hawaiian Water Patrol as Harry Bryant lit incense and played soothing tunes in his front yard. Meanwhile, the competition heated up, with 40 men and 20 women vying for top spot, half of them hailing from Hawaii. The format was simple: four heats of four surfers each, surfing three times, with the top four scoring waves making it to the final. Each heat would rotate between morning, midday, and afternoon, giving the surfers a fair shot at all conditions. The judges' scores would count towards the total, with no priority given to any surfer. The prize purse was substantial, with \$300,000 up for grabs, split evenly between men's and women's categories. The top four winners would take home: \* 1st Place: \$75k \* 2nd Place: \$35k \* 3rd Place: \$25k \* 4th Place: \$15k As the competition progressed, the surfers took to the water, including Noah Beschen, Zeke Lau, Balaram Stack, and Noa Deane. The heat began at sunrise, with a flurry of huge waves rolling through the lineup, but none quite landed on first reef correctly. In Men's Heat Two, Legend Chandler, Imaikalani Devault, Benji Brand, and Koldo Illumbe took to the water. It seemed like it was going to be a repeat performance until Koldo secured the first tuberide completion of the day with 13.5 points. Legend followed suit, packing a substantial closeout. The competition was intense, with surfers pushing their limits and breaking boards along the way. Benji Brand Celebrates with a Top-Notch Finish in the Pipeline Heat Koa Smith Takes Control at Pipeline with Perfect 30-Point Ride Florence jumps to third after dominating heat Following Kauli's impressive ride, Cam made a perfect drop-in and stood tall, earning 26 points to his total. Kauli followed suit with a similar effort, closing in on the lead. Unfortunately, he couldn't find another score, securing the spot for the Men's final. The lineup featured Koa Smith (72.2), Al Cleland Jnr. (70.4), Ivan Florence (65.9), and Nathan Florence (65.8). Caity rode a borrowed 6'6 board, borrowed from Zoe McDougall, and started strong by catching the first wave of the heat for 19 points. She then slipped off on the kickout and got sucked over the falls. Moana earned a head-dip for 7 points early in the final, while Erin Brook flipped underneath a ledge to score 16 points. Despite Caity's initial lead, Erin closed the gap with a perfect runner tube for 21 points. She ultimately took the win, collecting \$70,000 and momentum for her blossoming career. In the men's final, Nathan Florence dominated the deteriorating lineup, scoring two waves within the first 30 minutes of the heat. As the clock ticked down, Al Cleland Jnr. managed to catch a few crumbly sections, but Nate secured his spot with a proper Pipe wave for 26.5 points. The beach erupted in cheers as Nathan's family and friends celebrated his win, crowning him the 2024 Vans Pipe Master. The competition has reached its climax, with Pipeline's top performers emerging as the last chance looms before the finals. Koa Smith seized the opportunity, scoring three of his best rides in a single heat, including a perfect 30-pointer, propelling him straight to first place. On the women's side, Bettylou Sakura Johnson, Moana Jones-Wong, Erin Brooks, and Caity Simmers took the top four spots, setting it out for the crown. Here's a quick recap of how they earned their spot in the final: Bettylou Sakura Johnson (HAW) delivered a masterclass performance, including a 23-point Backdoor ride and a clean 17-pointer with turns that sliced through the water like glass. Moana Jones-Wong (HAW) dominated Pipeline, securing her top spot on the leaderboard with a 20.3 in Round Two and a 26-point bomb in Round Three. Caity Simmers (USA) started strong with a 21-point Backdoor tube in Round Three pushed her into fourth place. Koa Smith (HAW) finally put it together in Round Three with a perfect 30-pointer at Backdoor and a 25-point ride that catapulted him to the top of the leaderboard. Al Cleland Jr. (MEX) was a consistent force throughout, securing second place with a 28-point Backdoor tube. Ivan Florence (HAW) started strong but slipped to third after a few near-misses on what would have been the waves of the event. Nathan Florence (HAW) finished up with a 22-point Backdoor tube and a 21-point Pipe bomb, securing his spot in the final alongside brother Ivan. View this post on Instagram The surfers competed in the Pipeline Masters, with Erin Brooks making a strong comeback after getting tired of sitting. She landed a tricky closeout and scored 16 points, putting her in second place behind Caity. Meanwhile, Caity sent it on a sketchy left but snapped her board and called it a day. Erin quickly backed up her previous score with another perfect run, threading a tube for 21 points. Despite efforts from others, Erin was chaired down the beach by Shane and Jackson Dorian. The men's final saw John John and Alexandra Florence commentate on Nate's livestream, while he pulled in over 20k live viewers and grew his YouTube channel to 490K subscribers.