

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Paddleboarding Takes Center Stage At 3rd Annual Coconut Cup Sup Festival

Sports / **Published On April 04, 2016 11:22 AM /**

Ernice Gilbert **April 04, 2016**



ST. CROIX -- The 3rd Annual Coconut Cup Sup Festival, held at the Teres Veho, formerly known as Sand Bar this past weekend was deemed a resounding success, according to one of the event's organizers and co-owner of Teres Veho, Pi Presto.

Taking center stage every year is stand-up [paddleboarding](#), which draws athletes from all over the world. The two-day affair also garners families and residents looking to enjoy a weekend filled with activities.

"The amount of off-island athletes has grown tremendously this year, so it's getting St. Croix recognized," Ms. Presto said. She added that the waters here are perfect for stand-

up paddling, and that their goal is to build the sport's presence in the territory and hopefully bring the world championship to St. Croix.

The competition saw athletes competing in various segments, and yesterday's winner, pro paddleboarder Ryan Helm, said the conditions were favorable on Sunday.

"Winning feels really good," said Mr. Helm, the 10k Elite winner after defeating his competitors in a six-lap course. "This is my first competition for the year and it feels nice to start off in the Virgin Islands and to enjoy such a beautiful place."

Mr. Helm is headed to Puerto Rico next weekend and then to North Carolina to participate in upcoming competitions.

Below, some video footage of the sport's final contest, held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday.

© Viconsortium 2026