



**2023
Annual General
Meeting**

June 22, 2023
Costa Brava, Spain
8:00UTC +1

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

ANG, ANT, ARG, AUS, AUT, AZE, BAH, BEL, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, CHN, CRO, CZE, DEN, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GER, GRE, HKG, HUN, IND, IRL, ISR, ITA, JPN, LAT, MAR, MEX, MLT, NED, NOR, NZL, OMA, POL, POR, PUR, SEY, SGP, SLO, SUI, SWE, THA, TUR, UKR, USA
PROXY – BIZ, CYP, ISV, MKD, MNE, MYA, PAN, SRB, TAN.

Executive Committee

Kevin Whitcraft, President (KW)
Carmen Casco, VP Europe (CC)
Sigrid Beckmann, VP Americas (SB)
Ajay Narang, VP Africa, Asia & Oceania (AN)
Ricardo Navarro, Chair, Regatta Committee (RN)
Olive Parker, Chair, Technical Committee (OP)
Fiona Kidd, Secretary General (FK)

1. Election of Chairman of the Meeting

Moved by THA and seconded by AZE to elect Kevin Whitcraft as Chair of the Meeting.

Decision: Kevin Whitcraft was selected as the Chair of the Annual General Meeting

The president moved that that two Members AUT and LAT whose registration was not confirmed by June 17th be allowed to attend the meeting. This was approved by 47 votes in favour and 1 against.

2. Approval of the 2022 AGM Minutes

Moved by BER and seconded by HKG to approve the 2022 AGM Minutes.

Decision: *The 2022 AGM Minutes were approved.*

3. Consider any matters arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes not covered in the Agenda.

There were no matters arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes.

4. President's Report

Kevin Whitcraft, President presented his report on the past year.

The current IODA Executive Committee has been in office since the last AGM held in Bodrum, Turkey.

This year is an important milestone year for the Class with it being the 50th anniversary of the recognition of the class and the 60th anniversary of the World Championships.

Looking back on the last twelve months it has been a busy year getting back to normalcy following Covid. The Class is starting to thrive again as evidenced by the number of boat plaques and sail buttons we're providing to builders and partners. IODA has continued to provide world class championships on the continental and world levels fulfilling our aim to ensure a superior environment of competitive sailing while ensuring we are inclusive for all our members and youth sailors.

The reports of the Continental Vice Presidents provide a more comprehensive commentary on the championships.

The work of the Regatta and Technical Committee's to uphold standards and the one design concept of the class have addressed the objectives.

On the financial side the class is stronger as outlined in the financial report with another profit for the year.

During the last year and into 2022 we have started some major new initiatives including:

- Adding to our already strong 101 members are six new/returning members of Mauritius, Kazakhstan, Iran, Tajikistan, Venezuela and Panama.
- A fully digital measurement system and database for boats, sails, foils and spars. This project is started and anticipated for completion by the end of 2023. The goal is to have a better system of labeling and identification for the Optimist class and an improved database of information on equipment used in the Optimist class. This project will not immediately eliminate hard copy measurement books, plaques and sail labels but will enhance the current system.
The goal is to integrate builders and suppliers of Optimist components (boats, sails, foils and spars) database with the new RFID database.
Additionally, the goal is to provide information to members for management of the class in their countries.
- IODA has started discussions with Play eSailing to ensure the class is engaged in this new area of interaction with sailors and members. Play eSailing is present with terminals at the 2023 World Championships.

We continue to have areas of concern where improvement is necessary. Tracking is one such area in which we are still not satisfied with our supplier and are continuing to consider our options. The performance of Trac Trac at some events has not been ideal.

The IODA Excom decided to bring in a third party to assist in accounting review, which has greatly speeded up our monthly financial reports and annual audit. Actually, saving us money in addition to time on the annual audit. We have decided to take this to another level by moving forward and outsourcing the full bookkeeping and accounting function away from the secretariat. What has not been great is that we have not found a Treasurer to assist in financial oversight. As such I have taken on this role for now. If any members' representatives are interested in this role or know of someone for this role it would be good to get some volunteers.

The Executive Committee has taken the decision to restructure the secretariat of the class as outlined in a memo to members. More information and progress will be forthcoming to members as this structural change takes place.

As we look ahead with the recent difficult years of covid behind us, and with more solid financials, it is the goal of IODA to start engaging more with members. The first initiative being the Development program for coaches which is available to all members in partnership with IODA. IODA is finalizing the Development program and will roll out with courses in the final quarter of the year with IODA funding the bulk of expenses to bring world class coaches and the curriculum to our members and assist in growing the coaches in various geography's. A special focus will also be women training **female** coaches.

What the IODA Excom is hoping to do more of is further engagement with our members and stakeholders. We seek your guidance, input and advice on where you want to see the class moving.

We hope to spend more time growing the sport of sailing and specifically the Optimist class while improving how we manage the one design aspects of the class.

The IODA team is tasked as well to consider sustainability in our areas of interaction with communities.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Continental Vice Presidents, the Regatta and Technical Committee Chairs, the Secretary General and Regatta Secretary for the jobs they have done these last twelve months.

A special word of thanks goes to Ricardo Navarro who has served IODA for the last twelve years as a volunteer. He has been a wise advisor to me and a person who has given his time passionately to ensure our key stakeholders, the youth sailors in Optimist, are having the experience of a lifetime and enjoying the sport of sailing. He is an encyclopedia of knowledge on the history and operations of the class. IODA would not be in the strong position it is today without Ricardo. His commitment, diligence and role as a driving force has contributed immensely to the Optimist Class' success. I am certain he will continue to be a resource and champion of the Optimist class.

I look forward to the continued feedback and encouragement from members as to how we can make IODA better.

5. **Vice President's Reports – VP (Africa, Asia & Oceania), VP (Americas), VP (Europe)**
 - a) **Ajay Narang, VP Africa Asia & Oceania** presented his report.

Report on the Conduct and Organization of the 2022 Optimist African Championships Held at Langebaan, South Africa

1. **Introduction:** The 2022 Optimist African Championships took place in Langebaan, South Africa during 24 September to 01 October 2022. The event attracted 66 of the best Optimist sailors representing 10 nations from 4 continents providing them with an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete together.
2. **Venue and Facilities:** The choice of Langebaan as the host city for the 2022 Optimist African Championships proved to be excellent. The venue provided suitable conditions for sailing with its picturesque location on the Western Cape coast and reliable wind patterns. The presence of a well-equipped marina and sufficient docking space ensured smooth operations during the event. The availability of nearby accommodation and recreational facilities also contributed to the overall success of the championships.
3. **Organizational Structure** The 2022 Optimist African Championships displayed a robust organizational structure. The event was coordinated by the National Optimist Dinghy Association of South Africa in collaboration with the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA). The organizing committee efficiently managed various aspects including registrations, scheduling race management safety protocols and logistics. Their effective communication and attention to detail resulted in a seamless execution of the championships.
4. **Event Promotion and Participation:** The organizers made commendable efforts to promote the 2022 Optimist African Championships and attract participants from various parts of the World. They utilized multiple communication channels such as social media, official websites, and collaboration with National Sailing Associations to disseminate information about the event. The significant number of participants representing a wide range of nations demonstrated the success of these promotional endeavors.
5. **Race Management and Safety:** Race management during the championships was well-coordinated and adhered to international standards. The Race Committee efficiently conducted races, ensuring fairness, accuracy, and adherence to the Racing Rules of Sailing. Safety measures were also given utmost importance with dedicated safety boats and personnel stationed on the water to promptly respond to any emergencies. The organizers ensured that all participants were equipped with proper safety gear and provided regular updates on weather conditions and safety protocols.
6. **Technical Support and Equipment:** The provision of technical support and equipment played a crucial role in the success of the 2022 Optimist African Championships. The organizers ensured the availability of chartered boats for all participants. They also facilitated repairs and replacements if necessary to minimize any disruptions to the races. The presence of experienced boat technicians and on-site equipment ensured that participants had access to the necessary resources throughout the championships.

7. **Social and Cultural Activities:** In addition to the competitive aspect the 2022 Optimist African Championships offered social and cultural activities that enriched the overall experience for participants and their families. The organizers arranged cultural exchanges allowing participants to interact and learn from each other. Social events such as opening and closing ceremonies, award presentations and community meals created a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere fostering camaraderie among the participants.

Conclusion: The 2022 Optimist African Championships at Langebaan, South Africa successfully showcased the talents of young sailors from across the African continent. The event's conduct and organization were exemplary with a well-structured framework ensuring fair competition, participant safety and smooth operations. The combination of a suitable venue, effective promotion, robust race management, technical support and engaging social activities contributed to the overall success of the championships. The event played a significant role in promoting sailing and fostering a sense of camaraderie among young sailors leaving a lasting impact on the participants and the sport as a whole.

Report on the Conduct and Organization of the 2022 Optimist Asian Championships Held at Mumbai, India

1. **Introduction:** Mumbai, India hosted the 2022 Optimist Asian Championship between 13 – 20 December 2022. 101 sailors representing 13 nations from 5 continents participated in the event, which gave them a chance to network and compete at the Continental level. The purpose of this report is to assess how the championships were run and organized, highlighting important elements of the competition and giving a general sense of how well it went.
2. **Facility and Location:** The 2022 Optimist Asian Championship was successfully held at Mumbai, which was a great decision as the original hosts S Korea had intimated its inability to host the event view Covid19. With its steady breezes and proximity of the racing area the location offered ideal sailing conditions. Operations ran smoothly throughout the event thanks to the support of the Indian Armed Forces with all the necessary equipment and enough docking space. A major factor in the success of the championships overall was the provisioning of fantastic lodging and recreational options.
3. **Organizational Structure:** A solid administrative framework was on display at the 2022 Optimist Asian Championship 2022. In cooperation with the Asian Sailing Federation (ASAF), the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA), and other organizations, the National Optimist Dinghy Association organized the event. The race administration, registrations, scheduling, safety procedures, and logistics were all handled well by the organizing committee. The championships were successfully executed because to their excellent communication and attention to detail.
4. **Event Promotion and Participation:** The organizers did an excellent job of publicizing the 2022 Optimist Asian Championship and drawing competitors from different continents. To spread information about the event, they used a variety of communication platforms, including social media, official websites, and partnerships with National Sailing groups. The high turnout of participants despite a brief time frame available between allocation and the actual conduct of the event, representing different continents, proved the efficacy of these initiatives.
5. **Race Management and Safety:** International standards were observed in the championships' Race Management, which was well-organized. The necessity of safety precautions was underscored by the presence of large number of safety boats and personnel stationed on the water to respond quickly to any crises. The organizers made sure that each participant had the appropriate safety equipment and gave frequent updates on the weather and safety procedures.
6. **Technical Support and Equipment:** The success of the 2022 Optimist Asian Championship was influenced by the availability of sufficient charter boats, thanks to the organizers. To minimize any interruptions to the races, they also made urgent repairs and replacements possible. The availability of on-site gear guaranteed that competitors had access to the essential supplies during the championships.
7. **Social and Cultural Activities:** The 2022 Optimist Asian Championship provided social and cultural activities in addition to competitions that improved the whole experience for competitors and their families. Cultural exchanges were set up by the organizers to enable interaction and mutual

learning. Social gatherings including the opening and closing ceremonies, award ceremonies, and group dinners promoted camaraderie among the participants by generating a lively and welcoming environment.

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Conclusion: The 2022 Optimist Asian Championship at Mumbai, India, was conducted using a well-structured framework to ensure a fair competition, participant safety, and efficient operations. The event's conduct and organization were both excellent. The championships were successful overall because of a mix of factors including a good location, great promotion, strong race management, technical support, and fun social events. The event played a significant role in promoting sailing and fostering a sense of camaraderie among young sailors leaving a lasting impact on the participants.

Report on the Conduct and Organization of the 2023 Optimist African Championships Held at M'Diq, Morocco

1. **Introduction:** The 2023 Optimist African Championship 2023 was held in the scenic city of M'diq, Morocco during 02 – 09 May 2023. A total of 91 sailors from 18 countries representing 06 continents came together for this Championship, which gave them a chance to participate at the Continental level Championships and display their sailing prowess. Several teams included this event as part of their training in the run up to the 2023 IODA World Championships at Spain.
2. **Venue and Facilities:** The Royal Yacht Club de M'diq, Morocco, proved to be an excellent choice for hosting the 2023 Optimist African Championship. The venue offered favorable sailing conditions with its location on the Mediterranean coast and consistent winds. The presence of a well-equipped marina and ample docking space ensured smooth operations during the event. The availability of nearby accommodation and recreational facilities added to the convenience and overall success of the championship.
3. **Organizational Structure:** The 2023 Optimist African Championship showcased a robust organizational structure. The event was coordinated by the Royal Yacht Club de M'diq with the Fédération Royale Marocaine de Voile in collaboration with the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA). The organizing committee efficiently managed various aspects, including registrations, scheduling, race management, safety protocols, and logistics. Their effective communication and attention to detail resulted in the seamless execution of the championships.
4. **Event Promotion and Participation:** The organizers made commendable efforts to promote the 2023 Optimist African Championship to attract participants from different parts of the World. They utilized various communication channels, such as social media, official websites, and collaborated with National Sailing Associations, to disseminate information about the event. The significant number of participants, representing a wide range of African countries, attested to the success of these promotional endeavors. The active role played by the African Sailing Confederation (ASCON) in bringing the sport to many more African nations in the past few years is really commendable.
5. **Race Management and Safety:** Race management during the championships was meticulously coordinated, adhering to international standards. The Race Committee conducted races with fairness, accuracy, and compliance with the International Racing Rules of Sailing. Safety measures were paramount, with dedicated safety boats and personnel stationed on the water to promptly respond to any emergencies. The organizers ensured that all participants had appropriate safety equipment and provided regular updates on weather conditions and safety protocols.
6. **Technical Support and Equipment:** The provision of technical support and equipment played a crucial role in the success of the 2023 Optimist African Championship. The organizers ensured the availability of adequate number of charter boats for all participants. They also facilitated repairs and if necessary, to minimize any disruptions to the races. The presence of experienced

boat technicians and on-site equipment ensured that participants had access to necessary resources throughout the championships.

- 7. Social and Cultural Activities:** In addition to the competitive aspect the 2022 Optimist African Championships offered social and cultural activities that enriched the overall experience for participants and their families. The organizers arranged cultural exchanges allowing participants to interact and learn from each other. Social events such as opening and closing ceremonies, award presentations and community meals created a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere fostering camaraderie among the participants.

Conclusion: The 2022 Optimist African Championships at Langebaan, South Africa successfully showcased the talents of young sailors from across the African continent. The event's conduct and organization were exemplary with a well-structured framework ensuring fair competition, participant safety and smooth operations. The combination of a suitable venue, effective promotion, robust race management, technical support and engaging social activities contributed to the overall success of the championships. The event played a significant role in promoting sailing and fostering a sense of camaraderie among young sailors leaving a lasting impact on the participants and the sport as a whole.

Future Events in Africa and Asia

The future holds great promise for sailing events in Africa and Asia, as these regions are rapidly emerging as thriving destinations for competitive sailing. With their abundant coastlines and diverse marine ecosystems, Africa and Asia offer ideal conditions for hosting world-class regattas and attracting top-notch sailors from around the globe. The increasing interest in water sports and the growing infrastructure in these regions make them prime locations for future optimist sailing events. As the popularity of sailing continues to rise, we can anticipate the emergence of new sailing clubs, training centres, and state-of-the-art marinas, further enhancing the sailing culture in Africa and Asia. These events will not only showcase the talent and skills of young sailors but also promote cross-cultural exchanges and foster international cooperation. With their untapped potential and the determination of sailing enthusiasts, Africa and Asia are set to become major hubs for exciting and optimistic sailing events in the future.

The members have proposed the following schedule for future events in Africa:

- 2024 Seychelles (approved by EXCOM in 2022)
- 2025 Tanzania (to be approved in AGM 2023)
- 2026 Libya (to be approved in AGM 2024)
- 2027 Mauritius (to be approved in AGM 2025)
- 2028 Angola (To be approved in AGM 2026)
- 2029 Mozambique (to be approved in AGM 2027)

The members have proposed the following schedule for future events in Asia:

- 2024 India (approved in AGM 2022)
- 2025 Oman (to be approved in AGM 2023)
- 2026 Sri Lanka (to be approved at AGM 2024)
- 2027 Indonesia (to be approved in AGM 2025)
- 2028 S Korea (to be approved in AGM 2026)
- 2029 Saudi Arabia (to be approved in AGM 2027)

b) **Sigrid Beckmann, VP Americas** presented her report.

It has been quite a busy and successful year for the Americas Region after the slow restart post Covid Pandemic. More than three years after its start, I can say that most of the region has been able to recover and restart with a lot of energy and an upbeat outlook. While some countries struggled more than others and some are taking longer to do so, the Region as a whole is back, holding all kinds of sailing events, clinics, regattas and lots of travel.

I am happy to report an increase in participation of girls, not only in numbers, but also up there in the podiums in all our events.

Events

2022 South American Championship in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (October 2022)

Impeccable organization in the iconic Yate Clube de Rio de Janeiro. Great hosts with a fabulous team of volunteers in the famous Olympic venue. Great conditions and an amazing event. With a fleet of 165 sailors (107 boys and 58 girls), from 14 countries (ARG, BAH, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, COL, ECU, GUA, PER, PUR, URU, USA and VEN).

2022 North American Championship in Nassau, Bahamas (November 2022)

Extraordinary organization in the Nassau Sailing Club, led by Erin Tomlinson and a tremendously hard-working team of volunteers, once again delivered an amazing event barely missing yet another hurricane to keep with tradition! With a fleet of 155 sailors (102 boys and 53 girls), from 19 countries (ANT, ARG, BAH, BEL, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, FRA, GER, ISV, MEX, NED, PAN, PUR, SUI, SWE, URU and USA). Worth mentioning is our North American Champion was Isabella Calzadilla from Puerto Rico.

2023 South American Championship in Paracas, Peru (April 2023)

Hosted by Peru in another iconic and past venue for this championship. This was an extraordinary event. Well organized and with warm and welcoming hosts. The best team of volunteers you could ever dream of magnificent conditions and a great venue where everyone had a lot of fun. The closing ceremonies were taken from a movie. A wonderful experience. With a fleet of 143 sailors (92 boys and 51 girls), from 10 countries (ARG, BRA, CHI, ECU, MEX, PER, PUR, URU, USA and VEN).

Upcoming events

2023 North American Championship in Antigua (July 2023)

It will take place in paradise itself, Antigua, Host of the 2019 Worlds, and several North American Championships in the last few years, this venue is a favorite of the Class, and we look forward to working with an incredible organizing team again.

2024 North American Championship Puerto Rico (July 2024)

It will take place in gorgeous Puerto Rico where we have not been in some time, bringing fond memories. A great venue with an active and powerful new Class of Optimist sailors. We look forward to working with an incredible organizing team again.

2024 South American Championship in Encarnación, Paraguay (September 2024)

It will be hosted by Paraguay in a past venue for this championship. The South American countries have their rotation system, so this venue is part of that rotation. We are looking forward to returning to this fantastic sailing place.

We thank all the venues that work so hard to bring great events and get us all together to celebrate Optimist sailing. It takes years to put together these events and hundreds of volunteers to make these unforgettable events.

New Members

Last year we were incredibly happy to welcome Panama to the Optimist family. With this highly energized and highly organized member, we are sure that Panama will start making waves in the Optimist circuit. Welcome!

Venezuela has rejoined IODA after some years when we really missed them. We are happy to see them back in the circuit. Welcome back!

ROPE Program

The vision of ROPE is to introduce children to social responsibility, sustainability, and the circular economy. It started as a peer-to-peer program whereby children donate gently used equipment at IODA Championships so that there is a legacy to the local community for programs that need equipment. With over 175,000 Optimists built over the past 40 years, many which are still being used today, there is an abundance of hulls and gently used equipment that can be re-used for learn-to sail-programs in several regions, and emerging nations around the world.

Sailors bring extra equipment to IODA Championships so it can be collected, catalogued, and distributed to local sailing schools in need as well as to specific schools, clubs, and countries that are in dire need of equipment, giving it a second life and good use. ROPE was launched during the **2021 North American Championship in Nuevo Vallarta**, Mexico and it became an instant success. The sailors were extremely interested in participating and this new idea and it paved the way for the following editions in Worlds at Lake Garda and Bodrum as well as in the South Americans in Mar de Plata and Paracas.

The equipment collected at the 2022 World Championships in Turkiye was distributed to the **Sudan Optimist Team and the Tanzania Optimist team**.

Equipment donated and collected at the 2022 Optimist North American Championships in Nassau, Bahamas was donated to **Make them Sailors** from Bahamas and to **Antigua Yacht Club**.

Equipment collected at the South American Championship in Paracas, Peru has been donated to The **Venezuelan Optimist Association** which strives to make sailing inclusive and within easier reach for children in the Caracas area.

Equipment collected at the 2022 Asian, African & Oceanians Championship in Mumbai, India was donated to the **Phuket Sailing School in Thailand**.

The ROPE program was one of four finalists in the prestigious 'World Sailing - 11th Hour Sustainability Award' in 2021. This is an amazing recognition to our sailors' generosity and commitment to have both, a sustainable Class and to make sailing an inclusive and socially responsible way of life.

We hope to make this program bigger and be able to reach out to more communities around the World. Thank you for your donations and continued support!

Thank You

I want to, first of all, thank all our members that work relentlessly for this great Class. **Thousands of volunteers all over the world** that bring us all incredible sailing events on the water and on shore, always keeping us happy and safe. We could not do this without every single one of you.

Thank you to all the suppliers and builders that contributed so much to the best sailing Class in the World. We could not do this without all of you. Each one of you, all around the World. Thank you!

Special thanks to every coach out there helping us raise champions in Life, not only on the water. Your work goes farther than you think. Thank you!

Team Leaders and Country Reps... thank you for being in these events, making sure that your teams have everything they need, while they have fun, they are safe, and making sure that they take back home with them the best enriching experiences possible.

To all Optimist parents that help build and grow this Class every single day with unlimited commitment and love for Youth Sailing. Thank you!

I want to thank all my IODA colleagues that work behind the scenes in these events and every day of the year, looking to make this great Class stronger and better in every way.

Thank you to the Executive Committee for always looking to make the best decisions and keep the Class in order, especially in tough times as we have seen these past 3 years with Covid. You do have this Class in your heart, and it is an honor to work with you.

Thank you to the Technical Committee for keeping the Class organized and always fair for everyone. It is a lot of work that goes unnoticed but is key to having a strong Class. Thank you!

A big thank you to our Regatta Committee for always being out there in the elements for our sailors, for always managing the toughest conditions gracefully and safely, and for creating the best racing opportunities for hundreds of sailors. We have the best Regatta Committee on the Planet. Thank you!

Thank you to all our juries that travel to our events to keep us in order and sailing fair. Your work and experience is critical for us to be able to have these events and sometimes your hard work goes unnoticed. Thank you!

I want to thank our Secretary General, Fiona Kidd, and our Regatta Secretary Susan Elliot Beatty for keeping everything together. These ladies work around the clock to keep this Class organized and alive. I cannot say how much these ladies work and how much energy they pour into IODA. They go beyond the call of duty, and I am most grateful to have them always behind the scenes making things happen. Thank you, ladies.

c) **Carmen Casco, VP Europe** presented her report.

Just as it seemed that life was getting back to normal after the global pandemic when Europe was rocked to the core with the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. The resilience of our Optimist sailors and families persevered throughout the year as a team of young Optimist Sailors, their coach and parents roamed Europe and attended as many Optimist Events as they could – winning a few along the way. We are thankful to many Optimist families who helped Ukraine Optimist sailors through these turbulent times.

All over the European Optimist community, a lot of Optimist sailing events are taking place. Many of these events show a huge number of participants. Also increased over the last few years is the number of private clinics. These clinics are organized by coaches, all over Europe and very well attended. The European Optimist Community is working hard to have a successful and active Optimist Class.

To achieve this, a lot of hard work is needed. I would like to express a **VERY BIG THANK YOU** to all our members for their help and commitment to this wonderful Class. To all the Coaches for their tireless hard work and patience with all the Optimist Sailors. Please never give up.

Events

2022 European Championship in Sonderborg, Denmark {30.07. - 06.08.2022}

The 2022 Optimist European Championship was hosted by the Sonderborg Yacht Club. 253 sailors, 142 boys and 111 girls, from 43 nations participated at this event.

The first days we had some challenges with accommodation. Some teams did not get proper lodging. Together with the Organizer we tried our utmost to find proper accommodation for everyone. I would like to sincerely apologize to the Teams who were affected. With the accommodation issue in Denmark, we learned many lessons and implemented a system which should help us to avoid such kind of problems in the future.

We want to congratulate the Organizer for a successful event and their cooperation.

2022 European Team Racing Championship, Lago di Ledro, ITA (23.-28.08.22)

The 2022 Optimist European Team Racing Championship was organized by Associazione Vela Lago di Ledro, ITA. 16 Teams from CRO, DEN, ESP, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, GRE, ISR, ITA, NED, NOR, POL, SWE, SUI and TUR were invited based on the ranking of the top 16 nations from the 2021 European Championship held in Spain last year.

After 14 years of European Team Racing Championship in Lago di Ledro, Vela Lago di Ledro has decided that the 2022 edition was the last one. Camilla Baruzzi, President of the organizing club, comments on the closing ceremony: "the time has come to let others have fun too, but for us it is a goodbye and not a farewell!"

We want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to Camilla Baruzzi, the President of AVLL and her dedicated team of volunteers for the many years of organizing and hosting an outstanding event.

2023 Events

The 2023 Optimist European Championship is organized by the Nautical Club Thessaloniki, Kalamaria, GRE. It will take place from 15. - 22. July. Everything is ready to welcome almost 300 sailors to this big event. I am happy that after 1999 & 2007 we have another IODA championship in Greece.

European Team Racing Championship, 25.-30.08.2023 will be hosted by the Royal Loosdrecht Yacht Club in Loosdrecht, NED. All 16 Teams are registered, and organizers are excited to welcome everybody. Since 2008 this is the first European Team Racing Championship which will take place in another place than Lago di Ledro. I am looking forward to meeting you all there.

2024 Events

The 2024 Optimist European Championship will take place from 29.06.-07.07.2024 and is organized by Club Nautico Marina di Carrara in Italy. It is a beautiful venue in well-known Tuscany.

The 2024 European Team Racing Championship from 15.-20.10.2024 will be hosted by Yacht Club Monaco, an exciting place which will for sure be another great Optimist event adventure.

Thanks!

Thanks to all the Organizers for their hard work to celebrate wonderful events and get the Optimist family together.

Thanks to everybody, Suppliers, Boat Builders, Volunteers all over the World to make the biggest Sailing Class in the World such a success! Thanks to all the Opti sailors without you all this would not happen!

Finally, a big THANK YOU to my IODA colleagues/friends. Thanks for your commitment, for those thousands of hours you spend voluntarily on the Optimist Class. A big THANK YOU to our two secretaries Fiona & Susan for their hard work and commitment. Thank you.

6. Technical Committee Report

Olive Parker, the Technical Committee (TC) Chair presented her report.

The IODA Technical Committee which has been elected by the members comprise of Jean Luc Gauthier from France, Curly Morris from Ireland, Ale Williman from Uruguay with Conxa our Prototype Measurer from Spain and chaired by me, Olive Parker, from Ireland. The TC must acknowledge the support we have received from Fiona Kidd, IODA Secretary General and Susan Elliott Beatty, Regatta Secretary.

So, what does the IODA TC do? We meet at least once a year in person, at least virtually bi-monthly and during the event season we meet using virtual communications on a regular basis. We are responsible for ensuring the class is a One Design Class and stays a One Design Class. We are all also involved in the Optimist Classes in our own regions, countries and clubs. We regularly review the class rules. We carry out Fundamental measurement at some of our non-charter events such as Worlds and Europeans. This we use as an indirect quality control to ensure builders are sticking to our class rules. Our Prototype measurer carries out inspections at our boat builders of which we have 33 active boat builders worldwide. We are fully active at all IODA events, inspecting each competitor's boat to ensure sailors sail safely, educating sailors and coaches, and ensuring all competitors compete on an equal footing. Such inspections result in approximately 1000 boat inspections yearly, without counting inspection at factors etc. We are constantly liaising with our stakeholders – boat builders, sail makers, spar and foil manufactures striving to give the competitors the best equipment available to drive the class forward.

Fundamental Measurement

We ensure we have measurers qualified to carry out detailed fundamental measurement at events such as Worlds and Europeans. This allows us to randomly check boats where we have not been able to visit at factories and ensuring boat builders are staying within our class rules. Since 2022 we have carried out these controls on approximately 30 boats from builders using 30 different moulds.

Since 2021 we have carried out inspections in 4 factories approved 1 set of new mould.

The Technical Committee has been working alongside the Regatta Secretary in implementing a paperless measurement system and we are now working on a project to eliminate all paper such as Sail Measurement Forms, Registration and Measurement Books, and we will work together with builders and Sail Makers to have a central data system for all certificates. This is an exciting project which we hope to launch in early 2024 which will store all certificates digitally and all members, sail makers, builders and associations will be able to log into to retrieve the data. We hope to place RFID tags on all equipment and hulls so this data can be accessed by all and therefore eliminate all paper at events from the measurement side of things.

The training of class measurers around the world is an important project the Technical Committee partakes in. This year we held a measurement clinic in Peru in SAMS, and we are now in regular contact with the participants to support them and help measurement in their regions. We are planning more seminars with our VPs and working with them to ensure we can have a minimum of one measurer competent in each country to assist with the class rules. We ask if any country needs assistance with training measurers to contact either the Technical Committee or their VP's so we can communicate with them. We are starting to see progress with this project with Ale Williman working as Chief Measurer at this event and we are building on training measurers in North and South American where we have had a fall off of measurers in the past. Our attendance at events and streamlining our briefing to sailors at events and our presence in the boat park is aimed to help to

educate sailors.

Another job which is important for the TC is the reviewing of our class measurement templates we bring with us to events. We have upgraded most of our templates which are now lighter to travel with and reduces the cost for organisers as we can now rent this equipment and reuse these at events. This also allows us to provide more efficient and cost effect support at events.

What is the plan for the TC? We will continue with the development of the Paperless Measurement System, which not only helps with measurement to enable us to control the spars and foil manufacturers with the new IODA sticker. We will continue to review the class rules and talk with coaches and builders to do this. We will continue with our measurement seminars. We have and will continue to improve communications with everyone with the introduction of our Question-and-Answer section on the IODA website. We are constantly looking are more cost effective and sustainable ways of boat building. And we will continue to develop communication between sailors/coaches and the TC. We would like to look at ways we can reduce plastic and waste with the class.

The future of the Optimist is all our responsibility, and we must constantly review the class to ensure we stay competitive with other classes. We are the largest one design class, and the TC will continue to develop this and not assume we will survive without looking at all options. We are liaising with several builders to review the materials used to build the IODA95 Optimist and looking at sustainable options, improving materials together with keeping costs down and introducing new builders worldwide.

7. Regatta Committee Report

Ricardo Navarro, the Regatta Committee Chair presented his report.

I would like to take this opportunity to summarize the activities of the IODA Regatta Committee since our last meeting one year ago. Each year the IODA Regatta Committee is responsible to the IODA Members for running 1 World Championship, 5 Continental Championships in each region, 5 Team Racing Championships, and 2 Nations Cup Championships, with the participation of over 1,000 sailors worldwide. The Regatta Committee of IODA is made up of top-level World Sailing Race and Jury Officials: Chair Ricardo Navarro (IRO, ITD/BRA), Andres Perez (IJ/ESP), Ilker Bayindir (IRO, IJ/TUR) and Elena Papazoglou (IRO/CYP). Along with the support of Susan Elliot Beatty, the IODA Regatta Secretary, it has been possible due to consistency and dedication to achieve the goals of the IODA Regatta Committee.

Since 2017 when the IODA event microsites were launched, we have continued to improve the technical platform in the Class to better support the IODA championships and to enrich the sailor's experience. These developments have included the Smart Phone APP, the Scoring Integration Package, the Accreditation Package, and, with the IODA Technical Committee, the paperless measurement system. With the introduction of the 'Sailor Account' more recently, IODA's "Race Office" eliminated paper and is now completely digital, allowing us to support important sustainability objectives and at the same time provide a good service to the sailors and coaches. All of this technology for event management, including also for the registration process, is provided to the Event Organisers of IODA Championships, eliminating any concerns they may have regarding these key areas. Most importantly, the IODA Member can be confident that an IODA championship can be hosted anywhere in the world to an equally high standard. With the support of the IODA Regatta Committee, the concerns of Event Organisers and IODA Members have been eliminated regarding the key areas of the championship management. An added benefit is that the race records are available in perpetuity to everyone on the event microsites, the access to which IODA will never remove from the web.

On the water the IODA Regatta Committee continually focuses on trying to provide the best sailing experience for the sailors at IODA championships. This goal is achieved not only using technology but also with the ongoing development of race officials through the Race Officer Development Program. This year we will support a Deputy RO at every event to ensure the ongoing future of Optimist racing to a high standard. IODA RC continually endeavors to support more women officials at the championships to broaden access to career paths in sailing for females. We also do not forget that an IODA championship may be one of the first experiences that a young sailor has in high level competition, therefore it is particularly important that our selected Race Officials are aware of the youth learning component. Safety on the water, including specifically for Coach support vessels, remains always the priority for IODA. A comprehensive afloat safety management protocol is required by the IODA Regatta Committee and must be produced by every Organiser to the IODA standards for all events. Finally, It is important not to overlook that behind all of this, the manuals, documents, and race management guidelines support everything on the technical regatta side of the Class for the benefit of the sailors, and these continue to be constantly reviewed and updated by the IODA Regatta Committee.

We are now celebrating the 50th anniversary of IODA becoming an International Class of World Sailing and 60 years of Optimist World Championships. This is quite an achievement. Last year we talked about the importance of recognizing the history of the Optimist Class. There are over 200,000 Optimists worldwide, with over 100 Members, making IODA the largest sailing Class in the World. To mark this important milestone, the Regatta Committee wants to share the official launch of the IODA History Microsite, an area dedicated to capturing and celebrating the unique history of the Optimist. This brand-new microsite will contain a digital Hall of Fame, an area to capture the history of the IODA Members, historical photo gallery, articles throughout the years, and timelines highlighting people and events throughout the years. Now there are many images, documents, videos, and Member Class "paraphernalia" collected, all highlighting the Class history, and this new microsite dedicated to this history will ensure that these items will have a permanent home and can be shared and enjoyed by all. We hope that you will find this project exciting, and we encourage the IODA Members to participate with us and share their important moments of our collective past, to ensure the future of sailing Optimist.

In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the IODA Regatta Committee for their dedication to improve the Class for the sailors: Andres Perez (ESP), Ilker Bayindir (TUR), and Elena Papazoglou (CYP). Thank you also to Fiona Kidd, the Secretary General of IODA for her continued support. I would like to especially thank, on behalf of all members of Regatta Committee, Susan Elliot Beatty, the IODA Regatta Secretary, for her continuous hard work with us to achieve the many the IODA Regatta Committee initiatives.

8. Annual Audited Accounts

Kevin Whitcraft, President presented the 2022 Annual Report which includes IODA's financials as on December 31, 2022.

Gross Sales for the calendar year 2022 was \$435,615 as against the previous calendar year's Gross sales of \$343,581. Boat registration sales increased by 48% while Sail label sales increased by 6% compared to 2021. We also had steep revenue increase from IODA Championships which stood at \$83,750 against \$58,938 as we conducted more events.

With the increase in activity, we had a corresponding increase in expenses viz. Travel and meetings, Trac Trac. After meeting out the current year expenses, we were able to book a profit of \$51,873 which is about \$24,300 increase from the profit earned in 2021 of \$27,571. This increase in profit is attributed by increased sales and the increase in fees that members contributed to the last year.

Due to the excellent performance in this calendar year, IODA's 2022 cash balance stood at \$404,224 against 2021 cash balance of \$368,047. Receivables and Payables of 2022 were increased by \$20,337 and \$4,879 respectively as compared to 2021.

Moved by USA and seconded by TUR to approve the 2022 Audited Statements.

Decision: The 2022 Audited Annual Report was approved.

9. Fixing the following year's annual subscriptions from its members, the organizing authority championships fees, and the price of sail labels.

a) The current Championship Fee is \$50 USD for each sailor and adult for Continental and World Championships. The recommendation is to maintain the current fee.

Decision: *Approved*

b) The current Sail Label Fee is \$15 USD each. The recommendation is to maintain the current fee.

Decision: *Approved.*

c) The current Plaque Fee is \$60 USD each. The recommendation is to maintain the current fee.

Decision: *Approved.*

d)

Decision: *Approved.*

e) The current Annual IODA Subscription Fee is \$450 USD. The recommendation is to maintain the current fee.

Decision: *Approved*

f) Re-introduce a Spar Label Fee paid by the manufacturer of \$5 USD for each of the mast, boom, and sprit effective January 1, 2024.

Decision: *Approved*

g) Re-Introduce a Foil Label Fee paid for by the manufacturer of \$5 USD for each of the rudder and daggerboard effective January 1, 2024.

Decision: *Approved*

Moved to approve all fees as presented in Item 9 by ANG and seconded by LAT.

Decision: *Approved.*

10. Proposals from the Executive Committee

a) **Proposal 025-EC01** – Change in the Article 5 from the Executive Committee to reference the Regatta Committee and the Technical Committee Members as part of the organization of IODA.

Proposal 023-EC01 was moved by BER and seconded by ANG.

Decision: *Approved.*

b) **Proposal 023-EC02** – Change in Article 5 from the Executive Committee to add a sentence that compels the elected and/or appointed officials of the IODA to follow the IODA Code of Conduct.

Proposal 023-EC-2 was moved by USA and seconded by SWE.

Decision: *Proposal 023-EC02 was approved.*

- c) **Proposal 023-EC03** – Change in the Condition 7.1 b) of the North American Championship from the Executive Committee to provide more opportunity for the sailors of the North American Members by increasing the basic entry team size from 4 to 6 sailors.

Proposal 023-EC03 was moved by BAH and seconded by USA.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC03 was approved.

- d) **Proposal 023-EC04** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist European Championship from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC04 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: *Proposal 023-EC04 was approved.*

- e) **Proposal 023-EC05** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC05 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: *Proposal 023-EC05 was approved.*

- f) **Proposal 023-EC06** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist North American Championships from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC06 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: *Proposal 023-EC06 was approved.*

- g) **Proposal 027-EC07** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC07 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC07 was approved.

- h) **Proposal 023-EC08** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC08 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC08 was approved.

- i) **Proposal 023-EC09** – Change in the Condition 6 of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee to add a definition of the IODA Perpetual Trophy(s) already in place for the championship.

Proposal 023-EC09 was moved by SLO and seconded by SWE.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC09 was approved.

- j) **Proposal 023-EC10** – Add Condition 12.5 of the Optimist Continental Championships from the Executive Committee that identifies the number of Officials required based on the number of entries to assist the organizers of IODA Continental Championships to manage their budget while ensuring quality racing.

Proposal 023-EC10 was moved by TUR and seconded by AZE.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC10 was approved.

- k) **Proposal 023-EC11** – Add Condition 11.5 of the Optimist World Championship from the Executive Committee to clarify the number of Jury Officials required regardless of the number of entries.

Proposal 023-EC11 was moved by ITA and seconded by AZE.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC11 was approved.

- l) **Proposal 023-EC12** – Change in the Condition 20 of the Optimist Continental Championships from the Executive Committee to clarify the entry fee for the Optimist European Team Racing Championship.

Proposal 023-EC12 was moved by SWE and seconded by SUI.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC12 was approved.

- m) **Proposal 023 -EC13** – Change in the Condition 5 of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to give opportunity for sailors outside of North America to compete in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC13 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023--EC13 was approved.

- n) **Proposal 022-EC14** – Change in the Condition 5 of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to provide high quality and fair Team Racing in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC14 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC14 was approved.

- o) **Proposal 022-EC15** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to give opportunity for sailors outside of South America to compete in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC15 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC15 was approved.

- p) **Proposal 023-EC16** – Change in the Condition 5 of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to provide high quality and fair Team Racing in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC16 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC16 was approved.

- q) **Proposal 023-EC17** – Change in the Condition 5 of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee to provide high quality and fair Team Racing in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC17 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC17 was approved.

- r) **Proposal 023-EC18** – Change in the Condition 5 of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee to provide high quality and fair Team Racing in the Nations Cup.

Proposal 023-EC18 was moved by BAH and seconded by BEL.

Decision: Proposal 023-EC18 was approved.

11. Proposals to Amend the Class Rules

- a) **Proposal 023-TC01** – To amend CR 2.7.3.1 to ensure the continuation of the one design class with the change of builder or ownership mould.

Proposal 023-TC01 was moved by AZE and seconded by TUR.

Decision: Proposal 023-TC01 was approved.

- b) **Proposal 023-TC02** – To amend CR 3.2.6.1 to ensure clarity of the rule.

Proposal 023-TC02 was moved by THA and seconded by USA.

Decision: Proposal 023-TC02 was approved.

- c) **Proposal 023-TC03** – To amend CR 3.2.6.1 to clarify the number of ratchet blocks permitted for the mainsheet.

Proposal 023-TC03 was moved by BAH and seconded by SLO.

Decision: Proposal 023-TC03 was approved.

- d) **Proposal 023-TC04** – To amend CR 3.5.2.6 to remove a redundant and confusing phrase.

Proposal 023-TC04 was moved by BAH and seconded by SUI.

Decision: Proposal 023-TC04 was approved.

12. Proposals from Members

- a) **Proposal 023-ME01** – Change in the Condition 8 of the Optimist World Championship from the Member from ITA to add a mandatory mixed gender clause for teams of 5 sailors at the World Championship.

There was considerable discussion on this proposal and topic by the Members.

Decision: The proposal 023-ME01 was withdrawn by ITA.

- b) **Proposal 023-ME01** – Change in the Condition 7 of the Optimist North American Championship from the Member from PUR to add PUR to the list of entries with a defined quota/number of sailors in the North American Championship.

Decision: Proposal 023-ME02 was approved.

- c) **Proposal 023-ME03** – Change in the CR6.5.3 from the Member from ESP to add a rule that included a national flag adhesive, not painted on the sail with specific measurements.

There was considerable discussion on this proposal and topic by the Members.

The proposal was moved by ESP and seconded by FRA.

Decision: The proposal 023-ME03 was rejected by 51 votes against and 3 in favour.

13. Confirm the venue for the 2024 Optimist World Championship

Decision: Mar del Plata, Argentina, was confirmed as the host of the 2024 Optimist World Championship, December 5 to 15, 2024.

14. Select the venue for the 2025 Optimist World Championship

IODA received two bids to host the 2025 Optimist World Championship from **Poland and Slovenia**.

Decision: The bid from **Portoroz, Slovenia** was selected as the host of the 2025 Optimist World Championship to be held **June 26 to July 6, 2025**.

15. Confirm the venues for the IODA Continental Championships 2024

The following 2024 IODA Continental Championships were confirmed.

- European Championship - Club Nautico Marina de Carrara, June 29 to July 6
- North American Championship - Club Nautico de San Juan, PUR – July 13 to 20
- South American Championship, Encarnacion, PAR Aug 31 to Sept 6
- Asians & Oceanian Championship, Marve Beach, Mumbai, Nov 5 to 12
- African Championship – Seychelles, Sept 14 to 21
- European Team Racing Championship – Yacht Club de Monaco – Oct 15 to 20

16. Select the venues for the IODA Continental Championships 2025

- a) One bid was submitted to host the 2025 Asian & Oceanian Championship from OMA

Decision: The Members did not support the bid from OMA due to the high entry fee.

- b) Two bids were submitted to host the 2025 European Championship from TUR and SLO

Decision: Since SLO was selected to host the World Championship in 2025, they withdrew their bid to host the 2025 European Championship. As a result, **Cesme Izmir, TUR** was selected as the **host of the 2025 European Championship from June 15 to 22, 2025**.

- c) Two bids were received to host the 2025 North American Championship from BER and FRA (Martinique).

Decision: The bid from **BER** was selected to host the 2025 Optimist North American Championship, **May 4 to 11**.

- d) The following 2025 Continental Championships were confirmed.:

- European Team Racing Championship, Istanbul Yacht Club, Aug 15 to 22

There was a discussion regarding the timing of the ETRC close to Euros and SWE opened a discussion to timing for later in the summer to allow for countries to qualify to practice.

- South American Championship, Salinas, Ecuador, September 6 to 13
- African Championship, Zanzibar, Tanzania, July 9 to 19.

17. Information from World Sailing Meetings

Fiona Kidd reported on the activities of World Sailing.

In 2019, IODA made a submission to World Sailing regarding establishing safeguarding guidelines to help the classes, particularly, Youth Classes to help guide how to deal with bullying, discrimination, harassment, to name a few. No action was taken on this file until recently due to the aftermath of COVID and the restructuring of staff.

WS has now established a Safety Commission, however, it's terms of reference are focused more on offshore and high-speed sailing - Ex SailGP and /or America's Cup.

The good news is that WS has hired internally a safeguarding officer that will initially implement safeguarding training for the WS staff and officials etc. The second phase of their work will focus on reaching out to MNA's and WS Classes to help develop policies on this issue. Although IODA has a code of conduct, these safeguarding policies will focus on training and awareness.

Last November, Fiona Kidd attended the WS International Classes Committee Meeting in Abu Dhabi. Due to the location, the number of classes that attended was limited. IODA presented the ROPE Program to the committee and attendees, that was well received.

Items on the Agenda that were discussed were Inhouse Certification, their new Class Rule Change Procedure, Class Rule Changes, and their new Post event form (required after each IODA Championship).

IODA works closely with the WS Technical Department on the approval of our Class Rule Changes. The WS class rule change approval process will start soon after this meeting and can take several weeks to complete.

The WS Technical Department has also asked IODA to be part of a pilot project "Clean Class" due to our focus on sustainability and the environment.

18. Election of members of the Executive Committee (Article 7)

Election of two members for a two-year term

- a) **Kevin Whitcraft (THA)** was nominated by THA and seconded by SGP was elected as President.
- b) **Carmen Casco (SUI)** was nominated by SUI and seconded by ESP was elected as Vice President, Europe.

19. Election of members of the Technical Committee (Article 8)

Election of two members for a two-year term and one member for a one-year term.

- a) **Olive Parker (IRL)** was nominated by IRL and seconded by ESP was elected as a member of the Technical Committee for a two-year term.
- b) **Ale Williman (URG)** was nominated by URU and seconded by IND was elected as a member of the Technical Committee for a two-year term.

20. Election of members of the Regatta Committee (Article 9)

Election of two members for a two-year term

- a) **Miguel Amarel (POR)** was nominated by POR and seconded by BAH.
- b) **Andres Perez (ESP)** was nominated by ESP and seconded by TUR.
- c) **Peter Van Den Bossche (BEL)** was nominated by BEL and seconded by NED.

Decision: Miguel Amarel and Andres Perez were elected as members of the Regatta Committee.

21. Election of the Auditor (Article 14).

Kevin Whitcraft, President, recommended that IODA continue with Beierholm located in Aalborg, DEN as the auditors for the International Optimist Dinghy Association for the Fiscal Year 2023.

Decision: *Approved.*

22. Any other business

- a) Ricardo Navarro is retiring from IODA after serving 12 years as the Chair of the Regatta Committee, Executive Committee Member and Regatta Committee Member. Ricardo is not eligible for re-election as he has served his maximum 12 years (6 x 2 yr term) as set out in the IODA Articles. President Kevin Whitcraft presented Ricardo with an Image book by Matias Capizzano covering his 12 years with IODA along with an engraved tray in appreciation and thanked him for his 12 years of service.

Proposal: Moved by AZE and seconded by THA that Ricardo Navarro be elected as an IODA Officer of Honour.

Decision: Approved.

- b) Fiona Kidd is leaving IODA after 7 1/2 years as the Secretary General at the end of September. Fiona was presented flowers by the Executive Committee as a token of their appreciation.

President Kevin Whitcraft thanked all the Executive, Technical Committee and Regatta Committee Members for all their hard work as volunteers in the governance of the Optimist Class. He also thanked all the Member Representatives for their attendance at the 2023 AGM and for their comments and feedback. Kevin officially adjourned the meeting at 13:45.