



**2022  
Annual General  
Meeting**

July 4, 2022  
Bodrum, Turkey

## Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:**

ANT, ARG, AUT, AZE, BAH, BEL, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, COL, CRO, CYP, CZE, DEN, EGY, ESP FIN, FRA, GER, GRE, HKG, HUN, IND, ISV, ITA, KOR, LAT, MAR, MEX, MLT, NED, NOR, NZL, OMA, PER POR, PUR, SGP, SLO, SRB, SUD, SUI, SWE, THA, TUR, UAE, URU, USA

**PROXY** – ANG, CAY, ECU, GUA, IRQ, KUW, MAS, MYA, PAK, PAN, PAR, QAT, SEY, SRI, TUN, VEN,

**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)  
S.V. Balachander, Treasurer (SVB)

**Absent:**

Fiona Kidd, Secretary General (FK)

**1. Election of Chairman of the Meeting**

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

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

**2. Approval of the 2021 AGM Minutes**

Moved by THA and seconded by AZE to approve the 2021 AGM Minutes.

**Decision:** *The 2021 AGM Minutes were approved.*

**3. Consider any matters arising from the 2021 AGM Minutes not covered in the Agenda.**

There were no matters arising from the 2021 AGM Minutes.

**4. President's Report**

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

The past year was a year in transition from a 2020 where the world came to a standstill due to the COVID Pandemic. IODA was fortunate to host one championship that year. We are grateful to Portoroz in Slovenia for making that happen.

For 2021, it was a recovery year for IODA on two fronts. First, we were able to host almost all our Championships albeit late in the year except for the Africans. A few were rescheduled as late as possible as the pandemic peaked and valleyed throughout the year and travel restrictions were

gradually being lifted. We are so very grateful for all our Event Organizers who had to increase their planning to accommodate the Covid health restrictions that were put in place by governments. Special mention goes to my home club who in Thailand created a complete health security bubble on the venue and the hotel. Staff all stayed on site. Only the Teams and limited officials could go the hotel in a bus. There was no access to the public.

Second, due to some of the decisions we made a year ago by increasing our Plaque Fees, that we had a good recovery financially, particularly from the year before when revenues were down over 50%. We managed our budgets and cash flow over the year and kept a close eye on spending. The only difficult expense item to control was travel to events. Limited flights to various parts of the world were expensive and getting officials to our events was very difficult.

Activity in Optimist activity started to blossom in 2021 due to the lifting of travel restrictions, more events taking place and pent-up demand. Optimist sailing became very popular as an individual sport taking place in the open air and Optimist sailing schools began to start filling up. The industry was also in recovery with increased sales in both boats and sails particularly in the last quarter of 2021. We ended up on a positive note with a positive bottom line.

Last year we introduced a new pilot program called ROPE (Recycled Optimist Parts and Equipment), which is part of our sustainability strategy. It turned out to be a huge success with recognition as a finalist in the World Sailing 11th Hour Sustainability Awards. We were thrilled with the recognition, and we will be increasing our energy and focus in this area. Many members have been asking about the program which is very encouraging. Ultimately, we want to scale up the program and bring on a sponsor.

The Regatta and Technical Committees continue to pull out all the stops in their delivery of our IODA Championships as well as monitor the one design integrity of our class. All the members of our two technical committees are very dedicated to their roles within the Optimist Class. We are very fortunate to have such qualified volunteers working on your behalf.

We brought on two new builders last year and there are additional builders coming online in 2022. Builder activity is brisk with new builders coming online each year. Operational efficiencies continue to be a focus in both the events and measurement with the move to online and digital forms and data collection.

Our Vice Presidents continue to work hard in their regions to find ways to promote the Optimist for their Members and communicate regularly on many issues. They too are extremely dedicated to the Optimist Class to see that it remains the top Youth sailing class in the world.

Building and growing Optimist Sailing is a major goal for IODA. Developing new sailors and coaches will be a focus later this year. We are completely overhauling our development curriculum and delivery for a launch in 2023. We are working with top level coaches to help advise us in this area. The coaches are significant stakeholders in the Optimist Class, and we look forward to working with them in the future.

Last year we started a partnership with Harken Derm to introduce the importance of skin care for sailors who spend many hours in the sun. We feel that education is the key to learning about how to keep safe from sun damage. We are partnering with Harken Derm again this year and together hosted a Webinar with Dr. Edit Olsz Harken in May as part of our new partnership this year.

Next year is a very important year for IODA with 3 milestones to celebrate. It is 75 years since the birth of the Optimist by Clarke Mills who built the first Optimist pram in Florida that later morphed

into the Optimist Dinghy. It is 50 years since the modern Optimist became an International Class with the IRYU, now World Sailing, and it is the 60th year of the World Championship.

We want to celebrate this year with several exciting programs for all our sailors, families, and members. This is a year to bring past and present Optimist sailors together and share the Opti unique Opti experience. We look forward to engaging with all of you on the many programs and initiatives that we are planning.

I want to thank the members of the Executive Committee, Technical & Regatta Committee members and the Secretariat for their continued work and support. They all work tirelessly in their individual roles and collectively together on behalf of Optimist sailors around the world.

## 5. Vice President's Reports – VP (Africa, Asia & Oceania), VP (Americas), VP (Europe)

a) **Ajay Narang, VP Africa Asia & Oceania** presented his report.

Throughout the Optimist community, sailing programmes, events and initiatives are starting to take place more and more frequently now, as parents and young sailors around the world begin to overcome the challenges surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. It is clear to see, however, that many of our members and sailors still face issues and challenges to get back on the water.

I am certain that going forward, the international sailing events which feature the Optimist Class hosted at Bahrain, Oman, Abu Dhabi, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, S Korea, Japan, China, Seychelles, S Africa, Australia and New Zealand will once again be back on the radar and at IODA, we will continue with our focus on supporting the community.

The 2021 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship was a week-long regatta hosted by the RVYC, Thailand's premier sailing boat club with classes and events for all ages. The event was organized by International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) and hosted by the RVYC in conjunction with Thailand Optimist Dinghy Academy and Yacht Racing Association of Thailand, and primary sponsor Idemitsu. After two years of preparation including onerous tasks to comply with strict pandemic control measures, the event ended in spectacular success.

The 2022 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship scheduled at S Korea has had to be cancelled due Covid19 related restrictions and we are actively pursuing with alternate venues to host the event in the latter half of the year in a safe and fair environment.

I would also like to thank all nations that are registered to participate at the 2022 IODA African Championship being hosted by South Africa. Whilst, currently very few African MNAs have registered for the event, I hope that in the next few days many more nations will register for the event and I that we have an extremely successful IODA African Championship at South Africa this year.

Last year we introduced a series of webinars focussed on promoting greater accessibility to the sport for female participants and introduced many first-time sailors to the sport. The legacy of these webinars is already evident, with an encouraging sign of increased female membership within some clubs in Asia and Africa. We intend to continue such webinars going forward.

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 two 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 upbeat outlook. While some countries struggled more than others and some are taking longer to do so, the Region is back, holding all kinds of sailing events, clinics, regattas and lots of travel.

After 2 years of this life changing event, it is important to mention that everyone at IODA worked very hard to provide safe environments in our events. Very hard decisions had to be made, sometimes last minute, to make sure we were not only compliant, but also sensitive to the worldwide struggle to overcome this unique event. Lots of details had to be secured as we faced a lot of responsibility to provide our sailors, parents, coaches, providers, organizers and IODA officials with a safe yet happy environment. All our events were Covid free. I want to thank everyone that made this huge feat possible.

### **Events**

2021 North American Championship in Nuevo Vallarta, Mexico (May 29- June 8, 2021) Extraordinary organization in the first big event in the region after the Covid breakout began. The Vallarta Yacht Club, led by Linda Green and a tremendously hard-working team of volunteers, once again delivered an amazing event with a fleet of 110 sailors (71 boys and 39 girls), from 11 countries (ARG, BAH, BER, BRA, CAY, GUA, ISV, MEX, PUR, and USA).

2021 South American Championship in Mar de Plata, Argentina (December 11-18, 2021) After an almost 2-year delay, we finally celebrated the most anticipated Continental Championship ever. The Club Náutico Mar de Plata, did an outstanding job, led by our favorite Optimist friend, Matias Capizzano and the most dedicated team of organizers, who along amazing volunteers gifted us a very emotional Championship. The difficulties encountered in years of preparation, postponements, delays and unknowns have been unique.

A total of 155 sailors (104 boys and 51 girls), from 11 countries (ARG, BER, BRA, CAN, CHI, ECU, MEX, PER, PUR, URU and USA) sailed together and shared being together once more.

### **New Members**

Last year we were incredibly happy to welcome Panama to the Optimist family. With this highly energized and very 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 very 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 a number of 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 very interested in participating and this new idea and it paved the way for the following editions in Worlds at Lake Garda and South Americans in Mar de Plata.

Equipment donated and collected at the 2021 Optimist North American Championships in Mexico was donated to local sailing schools, Escuela de Vela La Cruz, the Vallarta Yacht Club Sailing

Program and also to Make Them Sailors in Bahamas. The equipment collected at the World Championships in Italy, was redistributed to the Hyderabad Foundation Program in India, an organization that introduces young kids from under privileged families to sailing.

Equipment collected at the South American Championships in Argentina has been donated to Capitanes de Barrio in Barrancas, Argentina and Escuela Itinerante NEA Posadas in Posadas, Argentina. Both strive to make sailing inclusive and within easier reach for children.

Equipment collected at the Asian & Oceanians Championship in Thailand was donated to the Optimist Sailing School in Phuket, a small school with an inclusive sailing program.

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!

### **Harken Derm Partnership**

I have been extremely lucky to be involved directly with the launch of our partnership with Harken Derm and to work directly with Dr. Edit Olasz, Aliz Savay and Alex Kellerman. Harken Derm is not just a phenomenal product that protects our sailors from the sun, but also protects our Oceans, a cause very dear to me.

The Harken Derm Team is a dream team. These enthusiastic team members' work ethos and take on life match perfectly with what IODA and our sailors look for when thinking of how to protect our beautiful seas and planet. I think this partnership is a perfect match for our vibrant sailing Class and look forward to working with them for many years. IODA looks to align, support, and implement sustainability efforts and this partnership is an example of that.

### **Thank You**

I want to, first, 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 contribute 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 that is helping us raise champions in Life, not only in the water. Your work goes farther that 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 2 years. 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 in the Planet. Thank you!

I want to thank our fantastic Class Secretary, Fiona Kidd and our most incredible 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.

Lastly, I want to thank each Optimist sailor out there that eats, sleeps, lives Optimist. Your commitment and grit every single time you are out in the water is what makes this Class unique. You are an inspiration. Thank you for being part of our Opti family.

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

The 2021 Optimist European Championship took place June 20th-27th in El Puerto de Santa Maria, Cadiz, ESP. 271 sailors, 155 boys and 116 girls, participated from 38 countries from which 6 countries were outside Europe. Xavier García Olle, ESP and Kleopatra Anastassiou, GRE were the winners of the EC. (ARG, AUT, BEL, BER, BRA, BUL, CRO, CYP, CZE, DEN, EST, FIN, FRA, GER, GBR, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISR, ITA, JPN, LTU, MLT, NED, NOR, POL, POR, ROU, RUS, SVK, SLO, ESP, SWE, SUI, THA, TUR, UKR, USA). It was an excellent event. Good wind conditions and well organized. A lot of positive feedback was received from our members.

The 2021 European Team Racing Championship took place end of August and was held in Lago di Ledro, ITA. The championship was represented by the following 15 teams: BEL, CRO, DEN, FIN, FRA, GBR, ISR, ITA, LAT, POL, RUS, SLO, ESP, SWE, UKR. Lots of wind changes and difficult conditions made it a challenging championship. Winners: 1. Spain, 2. Italy, 3. Russia

#### **Upcoming events in 2022:**

European Championship in Sonderborg, DEN from July 30th-August 6th, 2022.

European Team Racing in Lago di Ledro, ITA from August 23th-28th, 2022.

Issues & goals, On-going...

- Improve communication with members and coaches
- work with TC to get more Measurers within the region
- work on Development Plan, investigate with coaches
- sustainability, less plastic at events
- consider how to increase participation of girls at EC
- attend as many events as possible

## **6. Technical Committee Report**

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

The IODA Technical Committee comprises of Jean Luc from France, Bala from India, Conxa our Prototype Measurer from Spain with Curly Morris as advisor, and myself Olive Parker, Chair of TC, from Ireland. With the support of Fiona Kidd, IODA Secretary General and Susan Elliott Beatty, Regatta Secretary, we have been able to promote the Optimist as the largest one design class in the world.

The IODA TC is responsible for ensuring the class is a One Design Class and responsible to carry out measurement for World Championships and 5 Continental Championships, allowing us to carry out equipment inspections on close to 1000 boats each year, without taking into consideration any factory inspections.

The TC has been working alongside the Regatta Committee in implementing a paperless measurement system and together with the Secretary General we are proceeding to eliminate all paper in relation to all measurement books and certificates going into 2023 and beyond. We are now starting a process to digitize Registration and Measurement Books and Sail Measurement certs. We are also working with manufacturers of our equipment to streamline parts and foils and have more control in the manufacturing and the building processes of these components to ensure when a sailor buys a piece of equipment, they will know they are class legal.

Training measurers around the world for our class is an important project the TC is constantly trying to improve. Unfortunately, due to COVID this has proven slightly more difficult than we would have liked, however, we have with the help of Sigrid, VP of America, a Measurement Seminar planned for NAMS in Bahamas, and we are planning with the help of Carmen, European VP, for a measurement seminar to take place in Europe and we will post more details on this social media in the coming weeks.

We cannot do our job without our class measurers and without these volunteers, for example as Ms. Jang (Korea) Ale Williman (URU) and John Gillard (ANT) who are all here at this event we could not possibly carry out measurement at events. Since the AGM last year, we have carried out equipment inspections on over 600 boats and equipment. By the end of the year, we will have inspected over 1000 boats and equipment.

Our Objectives this year due to COVID19 were restricted unfortunately. But, following fundamental measurement at events, we have carried out inspections at factories, but now, together with the Regatta Committee, we have developed the technology to move our paperless systems that we introduced last year to run the totally paperless measurement part at our events. Our system now accepts PDF of sail certs and measurement books linked to sailors which has greatly helped with contact for COVID, is more environment friendly, certainly more efficient for measurers and sailors alike. We are continuing to develop this process and we need to engage with the sailors, team leaders and associations to ensure we can eliminate unnecessary paper at our events as part of our "green" agenda.

With travelling opening we have been able to attend at some builders' factories, meet new builders and help with the development of our class.

We have also reviewed our templates and are reducing the cost of these and modernizing these to make them lighter for travel, which cuts down costs. We are constantly reviewing the class rules and are currently upgrading the sail plans.

We carried out fundamental measurement at events last year and we will do so again this year at the Europeans in Denmark. This is extremely important for the class to enable us to check builders and ensuring they are complying with our class rules. We thank the sailors and teams for cooperating with us to do this job.

Our Prototype Measurer has been busy this year with visits to 6 factories helping them to improve their moulds and approving 2 new builders to the class. We are currently working with two new builders in the hope that they will start production over the next few months.

We are working with some builders reviewing different materials for boat building with the hope we

can build boats both cheaper, sustainably, keep costs down and make it easier for builders worldwide.

Thanks to Fiona Kidd our Secretary General for constant support and regular contact with our builders and equipment suppliers and Susan Elliot Beatty for her continuous support to the TC throughout the year.

## 7. Regatta Committee Report

**Ricardo Navarro, the Regatta Committee Chair** presented his report.

The IODA Regatta Committee (RC) is responsible each year for 1 World Championship, 5 Continental Championships, 5 Team Racing Championships, and 2 Nations Cup Championships with the participation of over 1,000 sailors worldwide. The IODA RC is fortunate to have an excellent and professional working atmosphere amongst its members - Chair Ricardo Navarro (IRO, ITD/BRA), Andres Perez (IJ/ESP), Ilker Bayindir (IRO, IJ/TUR) and Elena Papazoglou (IRO/CYP) - with the full support of Susan Elliot Beatty, the IODA Regatta Secretary.

The technical achievements for the successful delivery of the IODA events, developed by the IODA Regatta Committee over recent years, are now well known, and have enriched the experience of the Optimist sailor at the IODA championships. These include the Official Event Microsites, the Scoring Package, the Accreditation, and the unique Measurement system in conjunction with the IODA TC. The Event APP has optimized the event delivery for the smart phone, enabling team delegations and their supporters to experience all aspects including tracking, with ease. The introduction of the 'Sailor Account' last year, eliminated paper and provided a digital portable Race Office that quickly gained favour among coaches and sailors. This year the final race office forms unique to Optimist Class are now digital. All of this technology for event management, including registration, is provided to the Event Organisers of IODA Championships, eliminating any concern of IODA Members regarding these key areas. Most importantly, the IODA Member can be confident that an IODA event can be hosted anywhere in the world to equal high standard.

On the water the IODA Regatta Committee continually focuses on providing the best sailing experience for the sailors. Looking to the future of Optimist racing, this year the Race Officer Development Program is maintained and in 2022 a Deputy RO is assigned to each event for training. Safety on the water remains always the priority. Each event Organiser must produce, to IODA requirements, an afloat Safety Protocol. Mandatory safety requirements are in place for Coach support vessels in the rules of all events. Additionally, our manuals, documents and race management guidelines continue to be constantly reviewed and updated.

In 2022 the goal of realizing more women officials at Optimist events is being reached. The IODA RC continually analyzes the participation of girl sailors to implement methods to increase for future. More professional female mentors on the water at events is one way, and broadening accessibility to their career pathways through upcoming Webinars is planned. At the 2022 Arkas Optimist World Championship half of the Jury Officials' Panel is female, and the IODA Course Representative is IRO Elena Papazoglou. Women ROs will participate with IODA in two Continental championships later this year. Focus has also shifted to the event awards for sailors, and the establishment of an IODA Perpetual Trophy for the top girl across every championship is intended in 2022.

Finally, the IODA Regatta Committee is aware of the deep history of the Optimist Class, unique in the sport of sailing. Beginning in 2022, the IODA Regatta Committee will lead the Class development of an Optimist History Website that will build a digital space to contain and make accessible this special and important history to the Optimist Sailors, the IODA Members and the public in perpetuity. This project will launch during late 2022– early 2023 in time to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Class, and the 60th years of Optimist World Championships.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the IODA Regatta Committee for donating their time to the Class for the benefit of the Optimist sailors around the world: Andres Perez (ESP), Ilker Bayindir (TUR), and Elena Papazoglou (CYP). On behalf of the IODA Regatta Committee, special thanks is extended to Susan Elliot Beatty, the IODA Regatta Secretary, for her continuous hard work daily to support the Optimist championships and the many IODA Regatta Committee initiatives. Thank you also to Fiona Kidd, the Secretary General of IODA for her continued support.

## **8. Annual Audited Accounts**

**S.V. Balachander, Treasurer** presented the 2021 Annual Report which includes IODA's financials as on December 31, 2021.

Sales almost doubled as demand for both boat and sails came back after the pandemic from \$175,761 to \$343,581 in 2021. Sail label sales increased by 64% while boat plaque sales doubled compared to 2020. We also had revenue increase from IODA Championships as we conducted more events.

With the increase in activity, we had a corresponding increase in expenses. We were able to close the year with a surplus of \$27,569 which is about \$50,000 swing from a loss in 2020 of \$24,847. This swing in profit is attributed to increased sales and the increase in fees that members voted in the last few years.

Cash on the balance sheet increased from \$363,127 to only \$368,047 a mere 4,920. Payables were reduced by about \$30,000 accounting for majority of cash out flow. World Sailing had given IODA an opportunity to delay in paying fees due to WS to help class associations tide over the pandemic. This postponement of WS fees were paid in the year ending 2021.

**Decision:** The 2020 Audited Annual Report was approved.

a) S.V. Balachander reported at this time IODA is tracking ahead of projections and expect to meet 54,000 in income this year.

## **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, 2023.

**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, 2023.

**Decision:** *Approved*

## 10. Proposals from the Executive Committee

a) **Proposal 022-EC01** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist World Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of IODA Perpetual Trophies.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC01 was approved.*

b) **Proposal 022-EC02** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist European Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy representing the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC02 was approved.*

c) **Proposal 022-EC03** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist European Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed girl representing the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC03 was approved.*

d) **Proposal 022-EC04** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist European Team Racing Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC04 was approved.*

e) **Proposal 022-EC05** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top place finisher representing the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC05 was approved.*

f) **Proposal 022-EC06** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist North American Championships from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed girl representing the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC06 was approved.*

g) **Proposal 022-EC07** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy representing the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC07 was approved.*

h) **Proposal 022-EC08** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist North American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC08 was approved.*

i) **Proposal 022-EC09** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the

event.

**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC09 was approved.*

- j) **Proposal 022-EC10** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed girl from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC10 was approved.*
- k) **Proposal 022-EC11** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC11 was approved.*
- l) **Proposal 022-EC12** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of prizes in the Conditions.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC12 was approved.*
- m) **Proposal 022 -EC13** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist South American Championship from the Executive Committee to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC13 was approved.*
- n) **Proposal 022-EC14** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC14 was approved.*
- o) **Proposal 022-EC15** – . Change in the Condition of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC15 was approved.*
- p) **Proposal 022-EC16** – . Change in the Condition of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher from the continents of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC16 was approved.*
- q) **Proposal 022-EC17** – . Change in the Condition of the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from the Executive Committee. unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher from the continents of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC17 was approved.*
- r) **Proposal 022-EC18** – . Change in the Condition of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top place girl representing the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC18 was approved.*

- s) **Proposal 022-EC19** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC19 was approved.*
- t) **Proposal 022-EC20** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed boy representing the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC20 was approved.*
- u) **Proposal 022-EC21** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee. to unify and confirm throughout all IODA Championships the awarding of an IODA Perpetual Trophy to the top placed finisher(s) from the continent of the event.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC21 was approved*
- v) **Proposal 022-EC22** – Change in the Condition of the Optimist African Championship from the Executive Committee to ensure that the Condition for Prizes is in the correct section.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC22 was approved*
- w) **Proposal 022-EC23** – Change in the Articles of Association from the Executive Committee. to correct the omission of text from Article 2. Approved in Article 3 in 2019.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC3 was approved*
- x) **Proposal 022-EC24** – Change in the Articles of Association from the Executive Committee. to ensure that the objectives of the Class that the Members are to follow are complete for the safety and security of all who participate.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC24 was approved*
- y) **Proposal 022-EC25** – Change in the Articles of Association from the Executive Committee.to delete the Article as it is no longer valid. The dates in Articles 13, 16 & 17 have been changed to 60 or 90 days prior to the AGM.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC25 was approved*
- z) **Proposal 022-EC26** – Change in the Articles of Association from the Executive Committee to add an Article that specifies a minimum quorum required at the Annual General Meeting to conduct the business of the association.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-EC26 was approved*

## 11. Proposals to Amend the Class Rules

- a) **Proposal 022-TC01** – To amend CR 3.2.6.4 to correct a grammar error on the last sentence.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC01 was approved.*
- b) **Proposal 022-TC02** – To amend Class Rule 3.3.1.4 to change the word 'Zone' to 'area' and correct the spelling of 'laminated'.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC02 was approved.*
- c) **Proposal 022-TC03** – To amend CR 2.7.3.2 to change the builder identification number from the forward transom to the aft transom and change ISAF to WS.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC03 was approved.*

- d) Proposal 022-TC04** – To amend Class Rule 6.4 to add in a minimum figure to the thickness of the woven ply anywhere in the body of the sail.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC04 was approved.*
- e) Proposal 022-TC05** – Amend Class Rule 3.4.1.5 to modify the requirement from the manufacturer to add a serial number to the rudder on the starboard and port sides.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC05 was approved.*
- f) Proposal 022-TC06** – Add a new Class Rule 3.3.1.5 to add a requirement in the Class Rules that the manufacturer shall add an IODA equipment label to the daggerboard.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC06 was approved.*
- g) Proposal 022-TC07** – Add a new Class Rule 3.4.1.6 to add a requirement in the Class Rules that the manufacturer shall add an IODA equipment label to the rudder as of January 1st, 2023.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC07 was approved.*
- h) Proposal 022-TC08** – Add a new Class Rule 3.5.1.6 to add a requirement in the Class Rules that the manufacturer shall add an IODA equipment label to the spars as of January 1st, 2023.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC08 was approved.*
- i) Proposal 022-TC09** – Add a new Class Rule 3.5.2.14 to define the location of the IODA equipment label on the mast as of January 1st, 2023.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC09 was approved.*
- j) Proposal 022-TC010** – To add Class Rule 3.5.3.10 to define the location of the IODA equipment label on the boom as of January 1st, 2023.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC10 was approved.*
- k) Proposal 022-TC11** – To add Class Rule 3.5.4.4 to define the location of the IODA equipment label on the sprit as of January 1st, 2023.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-T11 was approved.*
- l) Proposal 022-TC12** – To add Class Rule 2.4.8 to place an IODA RFID Tag in the hull to store data to enable the class to go paperless.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC12 was approved.*
- m) Proposal 022-TC13** – To add Class Rule 3.1.3 to define where the IODA RFID Tag will be placed in the hull.  
**Decision:** *Proposal 022-TC13 was approved.*

## **12. Proposals from Members**

There were no Proposals received from the Members.

## **13. Confirm the venue for the 2023 Optimist World Championship**

**Decision:** *Costa Brava, Spain, was confirmed as the host of the 2023 Optimist World Championship, June 11 to 21, 2023.*

#### 14. Select the venue for the 2024 Optimist World Championship

IODA received six bids to host the 2023 Optimist World Championship from **Argentina, Brazil, Greece, Oman, Slovenia, and Uruguay**

**Decision:** *The bid from Mar del Plata, Argentina was selected as the host of the 2024 Optimist World Championship to be held December 5 to 15, 2024.*

#### 15. Confirm the venues for the IODA Continental Championships 2023

The following 2023 IODA Continental Championships were confirmed.

- European Championship, Thessaloniki, Greece, July 15-22nd
- North American Championship, Antigua, July 2-9th
- South American Championship, Paracas, Peru, April 15-22nd
- Asians & Oceanian Championship, Abu Dhabi, UAE, Oct 29- Nov 4<sup>th</sup>
- African Championship - M'diq, Morocco, May 2-9<sup>th</sup>

There was a late bid received by the Executive prior to the AGM from NED to host the 2023 European Team Racing Championship.

**Decision:** *The bid from NED to host the 2023 European Team Racing Championship was selected.*

#### 16. Select the venues for the IODA Continental Championships 2024

- a) One bid was submitted to host the 2024 Asian & Oceanian Championship from IND.

**Decision:** *Mumbai, IND was selected to host the 2024 Asian & Oceanian Championship*

- b) Two bids were submitted to host the 2024 European Championship from ITA and SLO

**Decision:** *The Club Nautico Marina di Carrara, Carrara, ITA was selected as the host of the 2024 European Championship from June 29 to July 7th*

- c) The following 2024 Continental Championships were confirmed.:

- European Team Racing Championship, Monaco,, Oct 15-20th
- South American Championship, Lima, PERU.

#### 17. Information from World Sailing Meetings

**S.V. Balachander** reported on behalf of Fiona Kidd on the activities of World Sailing.

World Sailing is the governing body of sailing and IODA is one of the oldest International Classes that is still very active. We became an IYRU International Class in 1983. Next year we are celebrating our 50th Anniversary as an international class.

Today, IODA is governed by World Sailing and they help us we manage our class and our Class Rules. Approved Class Rule changes made at the IODA AGM are required to be approved by World Sailing. This often takes several months to get approved, hence we do not publish our class rules until January 1 of following year. IODA works very closely with the technical department at World Sailing.

Each boat built must apply a World Sailing Plaque that we manage and distribute. Our database has over 95,000 records. 175000 Optimists have been built since becoming an International Class.

IODA has several World Sailing International Measurers on our Technical Committee, and the Regatta Committee Members are all World Sailing Race Officers, International Judges or International Umpires. World Sailing Official's certification is very important in the technical running of the Optimist Class. The Regatta Committee Chair, Ricardo Navarro is the Chair of the World Sailing Race Officials Committee, one of the most important committees in World Sailing.

World Sailing has been rebuilding their organization with new staff and offices in London following a few difficult years financially. The first in-person Annual conference and meetings since 2019 will take place this November in Abu Dhabi. The International Classes Committee which has representatives from all classes will meet to discuss issues of class rules, safety, and governance.

World Sailing has been for several years working to modernize its governance structure. They have made significant progress in the past year in this area following considerable consultation with members and stakeholders. The Classes are a major cornerstone of the new governance structure. World Sailing is planning on having it approved at the Annual Conference.

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

##### ***Election of two members for a two-year term***

- a) **Sigrid Beckman (MEX)** was nominated by MEX and seconded by TCA was elected as Vice President, Americas
- b) **Ajay Narang (IND)** was nominated by IND and seconded by PAK was elected as Vice President, Africa, Asia & Oceania

#### **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) **Curly Morris** was nominated by IRL and seconded by MEX was elected as a member of the Technical Committee for a two-year term.
- b) **Jean-Luc Gauthier (FRA)** was nominated by FRA and seconded by SUI was elected as a member of the Technical Committee for a two-year term.
- c) **Alexandra Williman** was nominated by URU and seconded by IRL was elected for a one-year term.

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

##### ***Election of two members for a two-year term***

- a) **Ilker Bayindir (TUR)** was nominated by TUR and seconded by MYA was elected as a member of the Regatta Committee.
- b) **Elena Papazoglou (CYP)** was nominated by CYP and seconded by ITA was elected as a member of the Regatta Committee.

#### **21. Election of the Auditor (Article 14).**

S.V. Balachander, Treasurer, recommended that IODA continue with Beierholm located in Aalborg, DEN as the auditors for the International Optimist Dinghy Association for the Fiscal Year 2022.

**Proposal:** Moved by IND and seconded by CYP that Beierholm, Aalborg, DEN continue as the auditors for IODA for Fiscal Year 2022.

**Decision:** *Approved.*

## 22. Any other business

- a) BAH proposed under North American Championship Condition 7.1 c to increase the number of allocated places from 4 to 8 spots going forward.

**Decision:** *Approved with 6 voted from the North American Members. None against.*

- b) There was a discussion regarding the dissatisfaction of the tracking at the event from our Members from POR, MLT and CYP.

**Action:** *There will be a full review and investigation of the tracking at the World Championship and a report requested by Trac Trac.*

- c) Our Member from AZE commented that there are not enough social activities for the sailors at the Worlds.

**Action:** *The social activities are the generally the responsibility of the event organizers, however, IODA will consult with the current WC Organizers to see if this is something that can be addressed this year. IODA will take this comment under advisement and will endeavor to add more social activities for sailors at the Worlds and other IODA Championships in the future.*

- d) S.V. Balachander (Bala) is retiring as the IODA Treasurer. President Kevin Whitcraft presented Bala with a small token of appreciation and thanked him for his many years of service and careful financial stewardship over the past few years. Bala joined as IODA Treasurer in 2017.

Kevin also thanked Bala, who is a World Sailing International Measurer, for his volunteer time and contribution as a member of the IODA Technical Committee for the past 4 years.

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 of the Member Representatives for their attendance at the 2022 AGM and for their comments and feedback. Kevin officially adjourned the meeting at 2:30pm