

# Optimist Development 2011

## *Three new fleets*

Belize



26 Optimists

Mozambique



53 Optimists

Armenia



12 Optimists

## Other recent projects

**Iran** 2010  
18 new Optimists



**Sudan** 2009  
12 new Optimists



**St. Kitts** 2008  
6 new Optimists



**Paraguay** 2010  
13 new Optimists



**Seychelles** 2009  
18 new Optimists



**El Salvador** 2010  
6 new Optimists



**Papua Niugini** 2006-8  
12 new Optimists



**Montenegro** 2008  
6 new Optimists



## The IODA 6 for 5 Programme

**IODA does not sell boats.**

**It helps not-for-profit sailing organisations in less-experienced countries to buy them *directly* from one of its 25+ builders.**

Such countries seeking to start or enlarge Optimist fleets can apply for one free boat for every five bought, up to a limit of four free boats.

These boats can be bought *directly* from any approved builder. Several builders offer very special prices for IODA-sponsored purchases and buyers are encouraged to get several quotations.

They must all be owned by an association, club or other “not-for-profit” organisation, and must all be available to introduce the children of non-sailors to the sport at low cost.

Priority is currently being given to Africa and the countries of the Caribbean and Central America but applications will be considered from any part of the world.

More than 400 Optimists have been sponsored under this scheme in the last eleven years.

### **IODA also offers:**

- Courses to train local instructors. These are fully subsidised and can usually be given in the language of the recipient country. Recent recipients include Mozambique and Sudan.
- Grants covering entry fee, accommodation and charter for two sailors when a country first participates in a continental championship or major regional regatta.

**30 of the 35 countries listed below have attended IODA continental championships and eight of them have hosted such events.**

## 2001 - 2011



# Developing through the Optimist

The Optimist is uniquely suitable as a low-cost development boat.

## Age range:

The same boat is used from 'learn to sail' at around age 8 to world class competition at 14 or 15. Boring? Not when you are progressing from



to



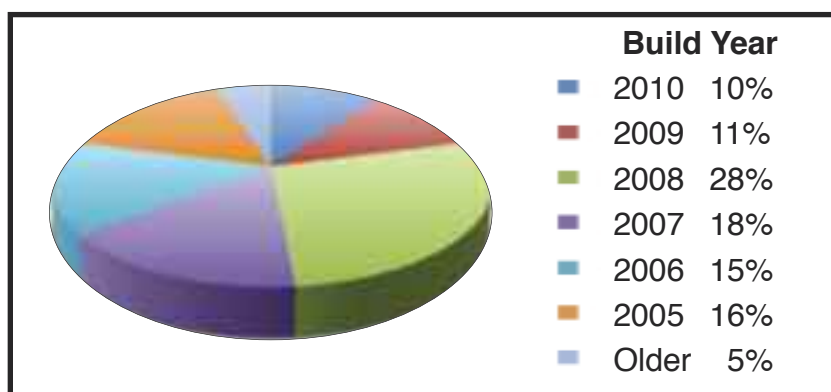
in the same safe boat.

## Choice of supplier

The Optimist is built by around 20 builders in 18 countries on four continents. No builder or agent can claim to be the only supplier . . . and charge accordingly. All Optimists are built to the same strict specification and, for example, the top 10 sailors at the 2010 Europeans used hulls from six different builders. Replacement sails are available from over 20 sailmakers.

## A durable boat

The Optimist, built in GRP just like all Olympic boats, is easy to repair using basic skills. Optimists remain competitive for at least six years. The age of boats (excluding charter boats) at the 2010 Optimist Europeans was:



And as the boats age they still retain their value for use in basic training, enabling novices to get afloat in their own boat for a few hundred dollars.

No Optimist is ever obsolete. The rare changes in specification are careful to ensure that *all* older boats remain eligible for *any* regatta.

## An available boat

Optimists are easy to transport by road but if it is more convenient you can charter a boat at most regattas including all IODA events.

The charter boat will be just like the one at home, except probably newer. Again at the 2010 Europeans charter boats placed 3rd in the girls' fleet and 4th in the boys'.

And ex-charter boats are often very good value.



## Developing international sailing



The Optimist offers unequalled opportunities for foreign travel.

It is hard to imagine a better way to learn about people from other lands than to share with them a common interest in your chosen sport.

At the major regattas listed on the IODA calendar ([www.optiworld.org/results.php](http://www.optiworld.org/results.php)) over 10,000 entries are recorded and, though there may be some duplication of sailors, there are dozens of other international events not listed.

Just some of the biggest events, with the number of nations participating, are listed below.

### IODA World Sailing Championship: 231 sailors from 53 countries on 6 continents

#### EUROPE

<b>IODA Europeans</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>IODA Euro. Team Racing</b>	<b>15</b>
Campobasso	ITA 22
KABB	ESP 18
Garda	ITA 21
Easter	SLO 9
Magic Marine	NED 11
S.E. Europe O.C.	SRB 8
Havre Total Opticup	FRA 7
Goldener Opti	GER 6
Dutch Open	NED 17
Topsport Vlaanderen	BEL 11
Swiss Open	SUI 11
Coupe d'Été	FRA 14
U.K. Open	GBR 12
Polish Open	POL 12
Finnish Open	FIN 8
Semana Caixanova	ESP 8
Sv. Nikola	CRO 12
Ciutat de Palma	ESP 14
Euromed	MLT 5
San Remo	ITA 7



#### AMERICAS

<b>IODA S. Americans</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>IODA N. Americans</b>	<b>21</b>
Semana del Mar	ARG 6
Schoelcher	FRA* 7
Scotiabank	ISV 9
DOM Int'l	DOM 17
Renre Jnr. Gold Cup	BER 16
Orange Bowl	USA 15



#### AFRICA/ASIA/OCEANIA

<b>IODA Asians</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>IODA Africans</b>	<b>17</b>
Australian Open	AUS 3
Sail the Gulf	QAT 9
Singapore Open	SIN 7
NZL Open	NZL 7
Indian Int'l	IND 9
Qingdao Regatta	CHN 8

# Developing future champions

## At the 2011 ISAF Worlds Youth Championship



76 % of boat skippers were known\* former Optimist sailors

66% had sailed Optimists internationally

\* results found on Google

### Medallists

Of the 18 medallists:

16 had sailed Optimists

14 had sailed them internationally, **all at the age of 14 or 15.**

	Laser M	Laser W	29er
Gold	<b>Mazard (FRA)</b>	Bue (NOR)	<b>Robles (ESP)</b>
Silver	<b>Zelko (SLO)</b>	Reineke (USA)	<b>Screve (USA)</b>
Bronze	Coccoluto (ITA)	Fauthoux (FRA)	<b>Deckers (NED)</b>
	420 M	420 W	SL16
Gold	<b>Xammar (ESP)</b>	<b>Vadlau (AUT)</b>	<b>Lowy (BRA)</b>
Silver	Motutsu (JPN)	<b>Kiss (USA)</b>	----
Bronze	Galloway (AUS)	<b>Barnes (ISV)</b>	----

**Red: IODA Worlds. Bold: Other Optimist international event. Regular: nationally only.**



**Martin Lowy and Carlos Robles** had both sailed in the 2010 IODA World Championship just **seven months** previously.



## and future Olympians



At the 2008 Olympics



### All boat skippers

47% had sailed Optimists internationally  
 17% had sailed Optimists at lower levels  
 11% had not sailed Optimists  
 25% are unknown

### Medallists

70 % had sailed Optimists internationally  
 19% had sailed Optimists at lower levels  
 11% had not sailed Optimists

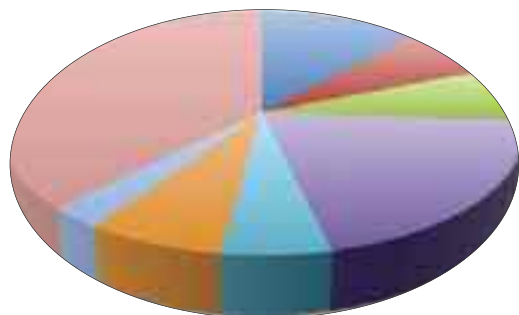
## and lifelong sailors

### The class of '94

In 2004 IODA published a study of the 181 participants in the **1994 IODA World Championship**:  
[www.optiworld.org/lowdropout.pdf](http://www.optiworld.org/lowdropout.pdf)

investigating how many of them continued to sail ten years later.

A similar survey for 2009-11, when these sailors were around thirty years old, was more difficult since many are sailing keelboats where the internet often shows only the owner or skipper. But **at least 62% of participants were still sailing 15 years later.**



■ Olympians	12%
■ Olympic Classes (other)	7%
■ Other centreboards etc.	7%
■ Keelboats	20%
■ Match Racing	6%
■ Coaching	7%
■ Miscellaneous	3%
■ Possibly not sailing	38%

For example, from the class of '94:



Derek Scott (NZL)  
3.7 Skiff



Sebastian Meira (ECU)  
Lightning



Eyal Sheref (ISR)  
PWA Windsurfer



Zdeněk Pavlíček (CZE)  
Melges



Alex Pallu de la Barrière (FRA)  
M34 Oman Sail



Clay Bischoff, Skipper  
Silver Panda Team Racing  
US Team Racing champions



Fernando Alegre (PER)  
Coach, Singapore  
Optimist Team



Michel Proot (BEL)  
Formula 18



Mark Campbell-James, Farr 52 *Bear of Britain*

and



Agnieszka Pomaska (POL)  
M.P. for Gdansk in the Polish parliament, who may not have time for much sailing!

# The Optimist World in 2011

## North America

Antigua			
Bahamas			
Barbados			
Belize			●
Bermuda	●	●	
Br. Virgin I.		●	
Canada	●	●	
Costa Rica			
<i>Cuba</i>			
Dominica			●
Dominican R.	●	●	
El Salvador			●
G. Cayman			
Guatemala		●	●
Mexico	●	●	
Neth. Antilles	●	●	
<i>Nicaragua</i>			
Puerto Rico	●	●	
St. Kitts			●
St. Lucia			
Trinidad & T.		●	
U.S. Virgin I.		●	
U.S.A.	●	●	●

## South America

Argentina	●	●	●
Brazil	●	●	
Chile	●	●	
Colombia			
Ecuador	●	●	
Paraguay			●
Peru	●	●	
Uruguay	●	●	
Venezuela		●	

## Oceania

<i>Am. Samoa</i>			
Australia	●	●	
Cook Islands			●
<i>Fiji</i>			●
New Zealand	●	●	
Papua NG			●
<i>Samoa</i>			
<i>Solomon Is.</i>			●
Tahiti			
Vanuatu			●

## Europe

Albania			
Andorra			
Armenia			●
Austria	●	●	
Belarus		●	
Belgium	●	●	
Bulgaria	●	●	●
Croatia	●	●	
Cyprus			
Czech Rep.	●	●	●
Denmark	●	●	●
Estonia			●
Finland	●	●	
France	●	●	
Germany	●	●	
Greece	●	●	●
Hungary		●	●
Iceland			
Ireland		●	
Israel		●	
Italy	●	●	●
Latvia			
Lithuania		●	
Macedonia FYRO			●
Malta			
Monaco			
Montenegro			●
Netherlands	●	●	●
Norway	●	●	
Poland	●	●	●
Portugal	●	●	
Romania			
Russia	●	●	●
San Marino			
Serbia			●
Slovakia			
Slovenia	●	●	●
Spain	●	●	●
Sweden	●	●	●
Switzerland	●	●	
Turkey		●	
Ukraine		●	●
U.K.	●	●	

## Asia

Bahrain			
China	●	●	●
Chin. Taipei	●	●	
Hong Kong	●	●	
India	●	●	●
Indonesia	●	●	
Iran	●	●	
Japan	●	●	
Korea	●	●	
Kuwait			
Kyrgyzstan		●	
Malaysia	●	●	
Myanmar		●	●
Pakistan			
Philippines	●		●
Qatar	●		
Singapore	●	●	●
Sri Lanka		●	●
Thailand	●	●	
U.A.Emirates	●		

## Africa

Algeria	●	●	
Angola	●	●	
Egypt		●	
Kenya		●	
<i>Libya</i>			●
Mauritius			●
Morocco		●	
Mozambique		●	●
Seychelles			●
S. Africa	●	●	
Sudan			●
Tanzania	●	●	
Tunisia		●	
<i>Uganda</i>			
Zimbabwe		●	●

● Data includes All Africa Games

**Member Countries: 112**

8 countries in italics are not current members but sail Optimists.

●	Attended 2010 IODA World Championship	53
●	Attended 2011 IODA Continental Championships	72
●	Built GRP Optimists 2010/2011	19
●	Received IODA Development Grants 2006-11	23