



NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL
OPTIMIST NZIODA
DINGHY ASSOCIATION
WHERE THE FUTURE OF NZ YACHTING BEGINS

August 2018 e-NEWS

www.optimist.org.nz

Please place this e-NEWS on your club website and notice board

Dear Sailors and Parents,

Upcoming 2018/2019 Regattas and Coaching Clinics

1 Aug 25 Auckland Junior Winter Sprint Series Final Race Day, Murrays Bay
Sep 8-11 NZ AIMS Games (Year 7 & 8 only), Tauranga
Sep 15 Icebreaker Regatta, Murrays Bay
Oct 2 - 3 Pre Winter Champs Coaching, Murrays Bay
Oct 5 - 7 Winter Champs, Murrays Bay
Oct 20 – 22 Spring Clinic, Worsler Bay
Oct 26 - 28 North Islands Ranking Regatta, Napier
Dec 1 - 2 Sir Peter Blake Regatta, Torbay
Dec 8 Junior Classes Regatta, Wakatere
Dec 18 - 21 South Island Optimist Camp, Mistletoe Bay, Picton (Being organised by QCYC)
Jan 14 - 19 Eastern Beach Camp, Eastern Beach (Being organised by Wakatere)
Jan 19 - 20 South Island Age Group Champs, Charteris Bay
Jan 23 – 25 Wellington Optisail, Titahi Bay (for new Optimist sailors)
Jan 26 – 28 Auckland Champs, Maraetai
Feb 9 – 10 Junior Sail, Kohi
Feb 16-17 Tauranga Centreboard Regatta, Tauranga
Feb 22 – 24 Interislander Ranking Regatta, Queen Charlotte Yacht Club
Mar 2-3 Canterbury Champs, Charteris Bay
Mar 9 - 10 Taupo Centreboard Regatta, Taupo
Mar 23-24 Wellington Centreboard Champs, Evans Bay
Apr 19 National Teams Racing Champs, Murrays Bay
Apr 20-24 National Fleet Racing Champs, Murrays Bay

“Like” the Facebook pages for these Clubs and keep watching the Club Websites for further information as it becomes available. As you can see, there are plenty of options available for attending Coaching and Regattas throughout New Zealand. The Optimist Class Representative at your local Sailing Club can help with information and they are your first “port of call”.





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NZL Sailing Foundation Optimist Dinghy Worlds Team 2018

Our NZL Sailing Foundation Worlds Team depart for Cyprus on Friday 17th Aug where they will compete in the Ioannideia Mediterranean Champs as a warmup before the World Champs from Aug 27 – Sep 6th. We wish George Lee Rush, Josh Hyde, Amelia Angus, Mason Mulcahy, Hugo McMullen, Coach Tim Adair and Manager Susannah Pyatt the Best of Luck and Safe Travels for the whole contingent. Susannah will post regular updates on NZIODA Facebook page so be sure to “Like” the Page and follow the Teams progress.

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NZLSAILING FOUNDATION

OPTIMIST WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

NZL

**NZL Sailing Foundation
Optimist Dinghy Worlds Team 2018
Limassol, Cyprus**

**Tim Adair
Coach**

**Susannah Pyatt
Manager**

**George Lee Rush
Wakatere Boating Club
NZ Ranking: 1st**

**Josh Hyde
Wakatere Boating Club
NZ Ranking: 2nd**

**Amelia Angus
Kohimarama Yacht Club
NZ Ranking: 3rd**

**Mason Mulcahy
Murrays Bay/Wakatere
NZ Ranking: 4th**

**Hugo McMullen
Kohimarama/Hamilton
NZ Ranking: 5th**





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South Island Camp, Queen Charlotte Sound 18 – 21 Dec 2018

Receive Optimist training with great coaches in the Interislander Optimist Ranking Regatta sailing waters. The Camp will be based in Queen Charlotte Sound using the Yacht Club facilities and staying in the beautiful Mistletoe Bay Eco Village. Initial enquiries or expressions of interest to siopticamp@gmail.com . Places are limited to 30 so be sure to get in quick!

New Zealand - First International Team in Japan 2018

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A successful NZIODA Team have just returned from the Japan International Friendship Regatta 2018 in Beppu. The two NZIODA sailors from Auckland, Valentine Kayrouz and Tim Howse accompanied by Laser sailor Polly Wright from Wellington, travelling along with their coach Tristan Campbell, won the First International Team Prize. The conditions were very light for the racing held over the three days with other overseas entrants arriving from Australia, Hong Kong, Philippines and South Korea. Temperatures were in the mid thirties at times and postponements and abandonments meant only three races were got away for Optimists.

Five classes participated with two Optimist fleets. The Advanced Optimist fleet (equivalent of our Open) was just over forty boats with the winning Japanese sailor from the Worlds top 10. Polly experienced a broken outhaul in the Laser 4.7 class but still managed to put in some reasonable results. Valentine won First International Optimist, placing 5th overall, with Tim taking 8th place. Coach Tristan Campbell commented "Considering the challenging conditions, our sailors adapted well making considerable improvements as the regatta progressed. As a Team they were great representatives for New Zealand with the host club doing an outstanding job of running the Regatta". During the event the team were billeted with Japanese families and attended local cultural events. The prefecture's Summer Festival was in full swing with evening fireworks and street dancing. Regatta ceremonies included a sashimi chef and local food. Cultural gift exchanges were also encouraged with our sailors presenting tokens of thanks from New Zealand to the host club, fellow sailors and their host families.





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Renaissance Re Junior Gold Cup, Bermuda – Report from Lucy Leith

Each year the Renaissance Re Junior Gold Cup is held in Bermuda and the top Optimist sailor from each country is invited. This year the organisers requested a girl from New Zealand and I was able to attend. The regatta was sailed in 20 knots of breeze with four races each day, for 4 days. On the fifth day one race was held in port in about 5 knots of breeze. This was live streamed and commentated on. It was incredibly challenging sailing against the best Optimist sailors on the Great Sound and I learned a lot. I stayed with a Bermudan sailor, Millie Lewis, and her family. Bermuda is a small island with an incredible history and excellent sailors. It was warm, the sea was an amazing blue, and the people were very friendly and kind. Well worth the 24 hour flight to get there!

NAMS Team competed at Singapore Nationals – Report from Scott Leith, Team Manager

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The North American Team of Ned Bacon, Stella Bilger, Lucy Leith and Noah Shirley didn't get to go to Mexico and compete in the NAMS regatta this year as NZIODA was unable to gain entry spots for the IODA event.

Since we had a team with no home, we were at liberty to choose a new regatta destination. Due to prior travelling commitments of two of the team members in July, the USA Nationals were passed over in favour of the Singapore Nationals in the first week of June. This meant we had only about 3 weeks to organise the trip and big efforts were made to make sure everything got into place quickly, not least uniforms which were received a day before we flew out (thank you so much Leanne Hyde).

The Singapore Nationals offered a 100 open boat fleet, with all 100 starting and racing together as one fleet. There were a number of internationals (MAS, MYA, AUS, JPN, SGP, NZL) attending the regatta. With strong currents and light winds our team learnt a lot from coach Connor on the best way to sail in the conditions and did have better races as the regatta went on.

The weather was even hot for Singapore, with 36 degrees every day and very high humidity - it seemed to be hottest on land as the team manager stayed onsite all day on standby for more ice for the coach boat, surprisingly the sailors seemed relatively unconcerned by the heat out on the water.





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Starting with this many very talented Opti sailors on a very long line bought its challenges to the sailors and it was pleasing to see the sailors improve overall. The Nationals were 12 races with just one drop so a couple of big scores really hurt overall placings.

There were some standout individual races with a 3rd and an 11 to Lucy, a 16 and an 18 to Ned, and a 15 and 22 to Stella. However, more consistency in starts and comebacks meant Noah took out the top Kiwi spot in 34th overall, Ned 38th, Lucy 40th and Stella 53rd.

The sailors all got on superbly well with plenty of laughter, taxi ride pranks, shopping and fun times. Big kid Connor enjoyed the apre sailing with the sailors at Wet n Wild, theme parks and the tourist attractions of the Gardens by the Bay, shopping on Orchard Rd, The Marina Sands Hotel, and generally rocking the hotel pool for hours each afternoon before dinner.

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The separate rooms for 1 sailor and 1 parent at the upmarket hotel made for plenty of sleep for the sailors to keep them competitively spirited for each day in the heat. The full buffet breakfast at the hotel, seriously good food for lunches at the club and a different restaurant meal each night were also well appreciated by the sailors (and their Parents!).

The National Singaporean sailing centre made us most welcome and at the closing presentation the Haka performed by our young Kiwi sailors was very well received.

Thank you to Peiming and the National Singapore Sailing Centre - we really did enjoy all you had on offer and we would highly recommend the Singapore Nationals as a top Opti regatta for aspiring NZ Opti sailors.

Optimist Europeans The Hague 2018 – Report from Team Manager Guy Pilkington

The Team arrived in Scheveningen, Netherlands on the 18th June and spent the day getting the charter boats ready. After the first training session the Team were surprised how strong the current was and realised tide was going to be one of the major factors of the Regatta. We managed to only get x2 training sessions in prior to the Regatta as the Organisers closed the harbour due to bad weather. The sailing centre where the Regatta was based was very impressive with buildings to take a fully rigged 49er, gym, showers, offices and a common room to relax in.





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George, Robbie, Lucas and Naomi did an amazing Haka at the opening ceremony and the organisers were super impressed. The event was well organised and run. We stayed at a holiday park about a 20 min drive from the venue. We had our own house which was great for the Team. During the Regatta we shared a RIB with the UK team.

The Boys & Girls were split into x2 fleets with 75 sailors in the boys and 58 in the girls. It made starting the number one priority. We were very lucky with the weather with good breeze every day and up to 3 metre waves to contend with.

The Regatta timed with the finish of the 2018 Volvo Ocean Race in The Hague. The Team got a visit from Brad Farrand off Akzo Nobel one morning while rigging up. They were also lucky enough to get a tour of Dongfeng Race Team at the end of the Regatta from Stu Bannatyne.

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The team represented themselves, Country and Yacht Club's very well and they should all be proud of how they did. The Regatta was very tough with big fleets and tide to deal with, and the standard of sailing was very high. Huge Thankyou to Coach Peter Soosalu, all the parents and NZIODA for giving the team the opportunity to compete at this Regatta.





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Like us, please...

Finally, please like the NZIODA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NZIODA/>

It is updated regularly and in doing so you can follow our News and our Representative Teams as they travel to and compete in their International Regattas. Go Teams!

If you have Optimist News and Calendar items you would like included in the next edition of e-News, email them to the Editor amymulcahy@xtra.co.nz. We would welcome Optimist News from all around NZ!

All the best from your Committee
August 2018





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