



# IODA Regatta Committee 2023 AGM REPORT

June 2023



International Optimist Dinghy Association  
[www.optiworld.org](http://www.optiworld.org)

# IODA Regatta Committee

**Ricardo Navarro, IRO, ITD (BRA), Chair**  
**Andres Perez, IJ (ESP)**

**Ilker Bayindir, IJ / IRO (TUR)**  
**Elena Papazoglou, IRO (CYP)**

**IODA Regatta Secretary: Susan Elliot Beatty**

# 2023 IODA CHAMPIONSHIPS

**North American**

**July 2 – 9**

**Antigua**

**Europeans**

**July 15 – 22**

**Thessaloniki, Greece**

**WORLDS**

**June 15 – 25**

**Costa Brava, Spain**

**Euro Team Race**

**August 25– 30**

**Loosdrecht, NED**

**Africans**

**May 2 – 9**

**M'diq, Morocco**

**Asian Oceanian**

**October 29 – Nov 5**

**Abu Dhabi**

**South Americans**

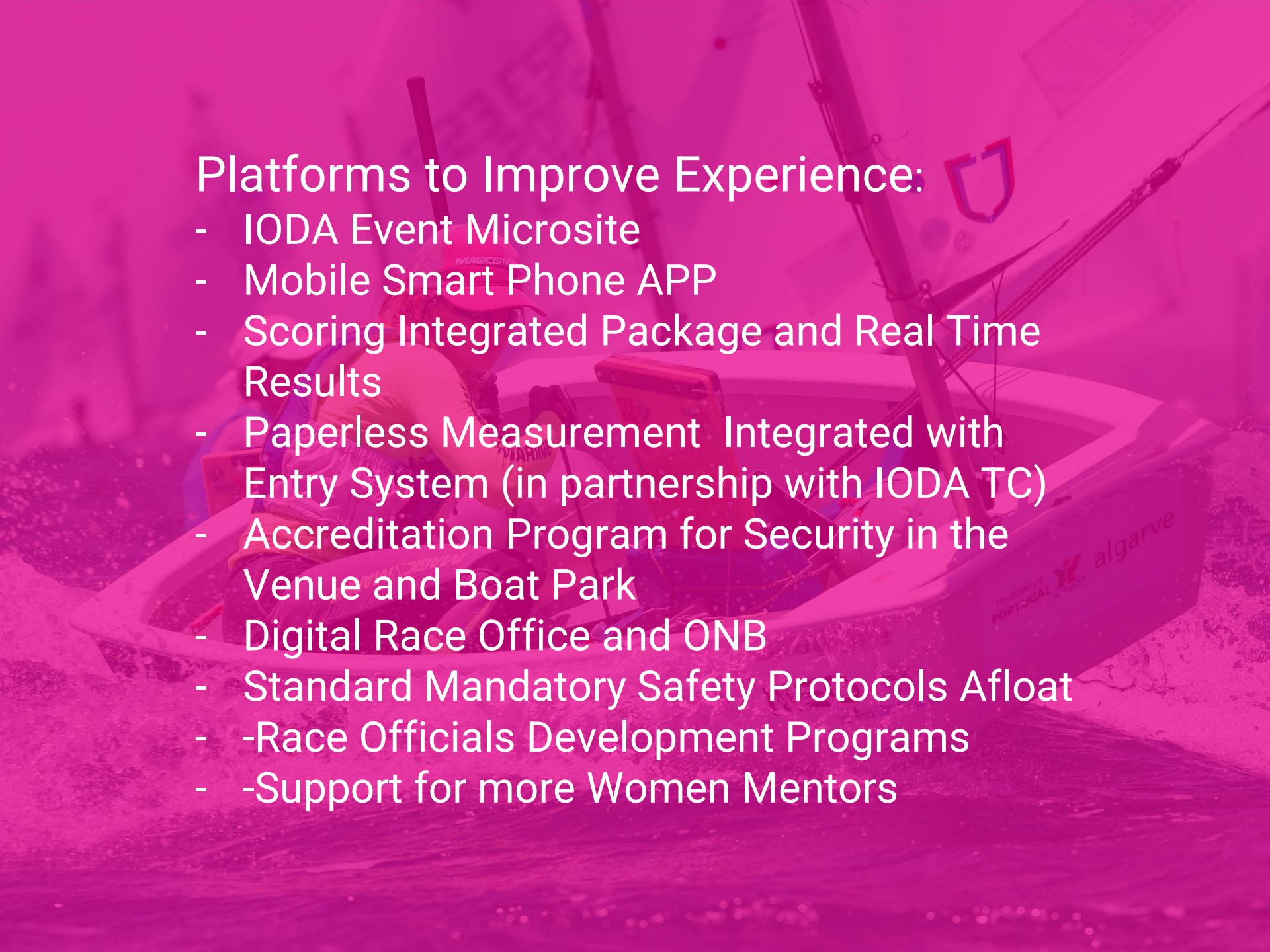
**April 15 – 22**

**Paracas, Peru**

# Continuous Commitment to Development in RC

Since the introduction of the IODA event microsites in 2017, IODA Regatta Committee has continued to make custom improvements for events:

- to assist the organizers of the IODA Championships with delivery
- to maintain consistent standards and high delivery no matter where we are in the world
- to enrich the IODA Member and sailor enjoyment.



## Platforms to Improve Experience:

- IODA Event Microsite
- Mobile Smart Phone APP
- Scoring Integrated Package and Real Time Results
- Paperless Measurement Integrated with Entry System (in partnership with IODA TC)
- Accreditation Program for Security in the Venue and Boat Park
- Digital Race Office and ONB
- Standard Mandatory Safety Protocols Afloat
- Race Officials Development Programs
- Support for more Women Mentors

# The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the IODA

The IODA History Microsite is a new initiative of the IODA and will be dedicated to gathering together and preserving in perpetuity the history of the Class for the continuous enjoyment of the IODA Members for the future of Optimist sailing.

# Historical Articles and Documents Preserved

 HOME HIGHLIGHTS DID YOU KNOW? ARTICLES OLD DOCUMENTS HISTORICAL PHOTO/VIDEO

Articles > Reports

## The International Optimist Dinghy Association

*The International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) was founded at the fourth Regatta in 1965 in Turku in Finland*

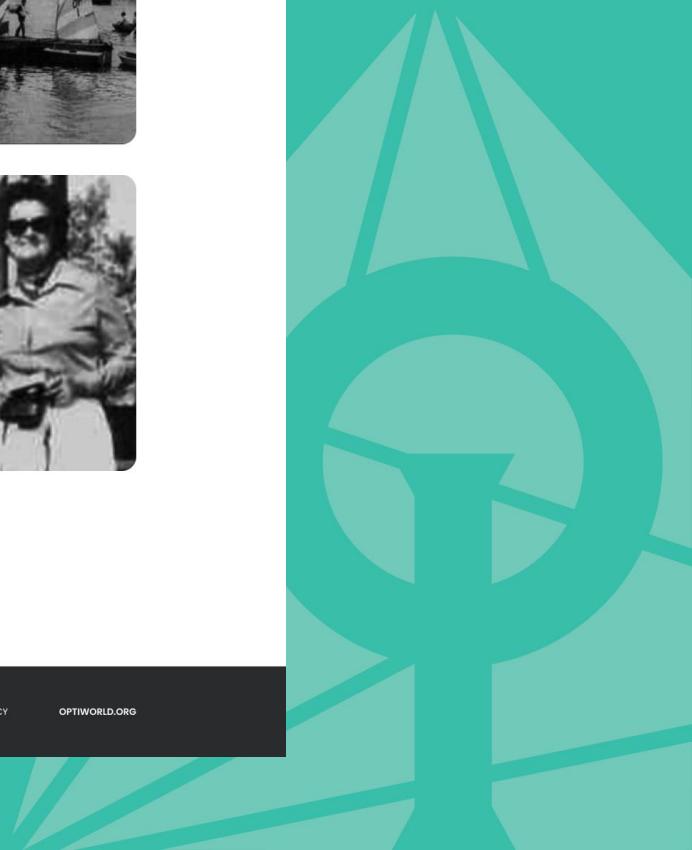
The first members were Austria, Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Norway, Sweden and USA, followed shortly by Germany and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

The new association brought together the work of Viggo Jacobsen, who was elected president, and that of Nigel Ringrose as vice-president. These two were to remain in those positions for over 15 years with Viggo's English-born wife Edith as honorary secretary. Viggo was an ideal president. He had been trained in woodworking and had even owned a small boat-building company before the war. He had then joined the family paper-merchant business. As a Dragon sailor -like many of the most influential yachtsmen of his generation -he knew one-design sailing.

Among other activities he organised the Århus Boat Show, the profits of which were used to fund junior sailing (after a loss in the first year). Bent Lyman's comment that he was a 'foreign minister' acquired a wider meaning as he worked tirelessly with the various national groups as the Optimist spread. Nigel was a great roving ambassador. 'He worked for the United Nations and set up Opti programs wherever he went around the world. He came here and said "why don't you guys have any Optis here?" was the typical report of Connecticut's Sinclair.Ivar Ahlgren from Långedrags SS in Göteborg, president of the newly formed Swedish Optimist Association, became the auditor, a position he was to hold for over thirty years. Understandably apart from Nigel most of the leading lights of the new IODA were for many years Scandinavian, among them Lars Wallin, Eric Carsten Hansen and Jens Andersen as chairmen of the IODA Technical Committee. None of these were current Optimist parents which gave a consistency and strength seen in few other Classes. This is an extract of the document Viggo Jacobsen & the Optimist Dinghy by Robert Wilkes. Full document available at [https://www.optiworld.org/uploaded\\_files/VJHistory.pdf](https://www.optiworld.org/uploaded_files/VJHistory.pdf)



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The homepage of the Sail Optimist website features a prominent banner at the top with the text '50 years sailing together' and '1963 IODA was recognized as an International Class'. Below the banner, there are several sections: 'Highlights' (with a link to 'Explore the best moments'), 'Hall of Fame' (with a link to 'Meet the Hall of Fame members'), and '50 years & beyond' (with a link to 'Explore the optimist's continuing tradition'). The main content area includes a profile for 'Joaquin Blanco' (available Champion only 2000 and 2002), a 'HALL OF FAME' section with profiles for Evans, Viggo Jacobsen, Clark Mills, Marco Grondoni, and Mark R., and a 'FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS' section with profiles for the 'First Optimist design', 'Matthew Graham', 'Axel Dornsegard', 'First girl winner', and 'Largest Optimist World Championship'. At the bottom, there are links to 'TELL THE HISTORY YOURSELF', 'PHOTO GALLERY', and 'OPTIWORLD.ORG'.

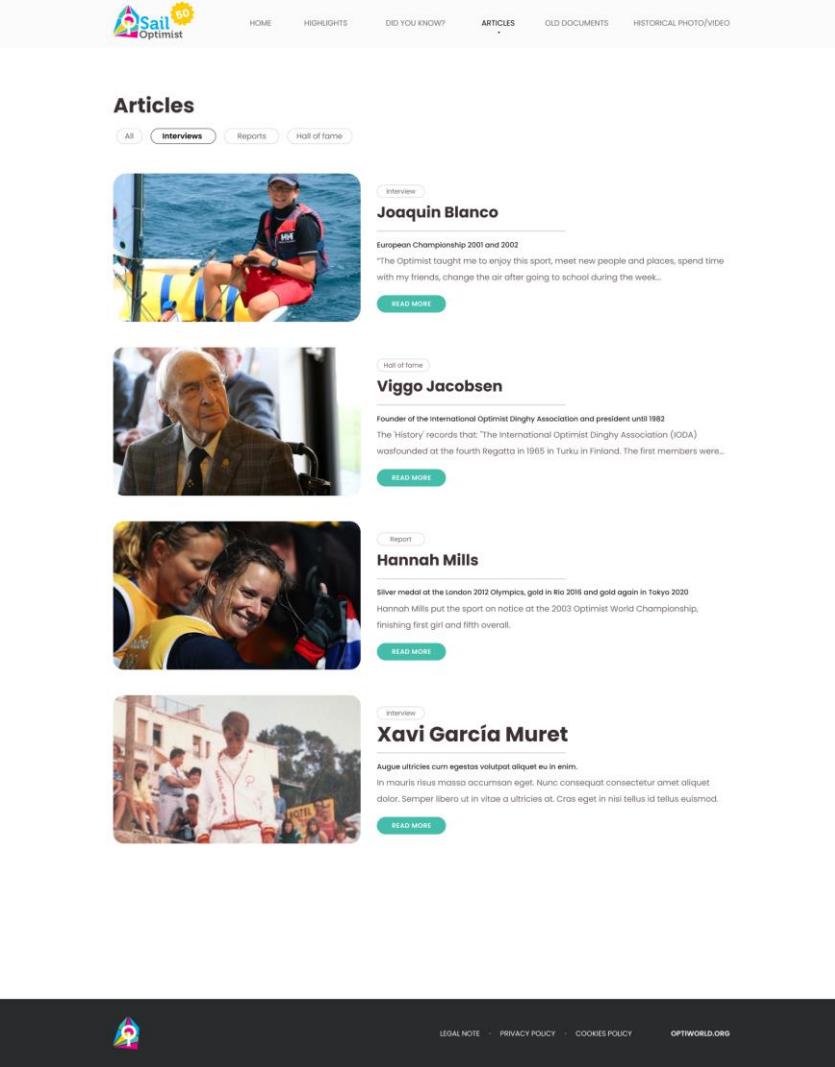
# Highlights on Important Figures of the IODA - People who first Built OUR Class and Who are Continuing their work

The Hall of Fame page for Viggo Jacobsen (1914 – 2016) features a biography stating that he was the founder of the International Optimist Dinghy Association and president until 1982. The text notes that the 'History' records that the IODA was founded at the fourth Regatta in 1963 in Turku, Finland. The first members were Austria, Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Norway, Sweden and USA, followed shortly by Germany and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The page also highlights his work on the Aarhus Boat Show and his role as a foreign minister.

The sidebar on the right lists other Hall of Fame members: Evans, Viggo Jacobsen, Clark Mills, Marco Grondoni, and Mark R. Each member has a small profile picture and a brief description.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links to 'LEGAL NOTE', 'PRIVACY POLICY', 'COOKIES POLICY', and 'OPTIWORLD.ORG'.

# Member pages to share everyone's unique history globally



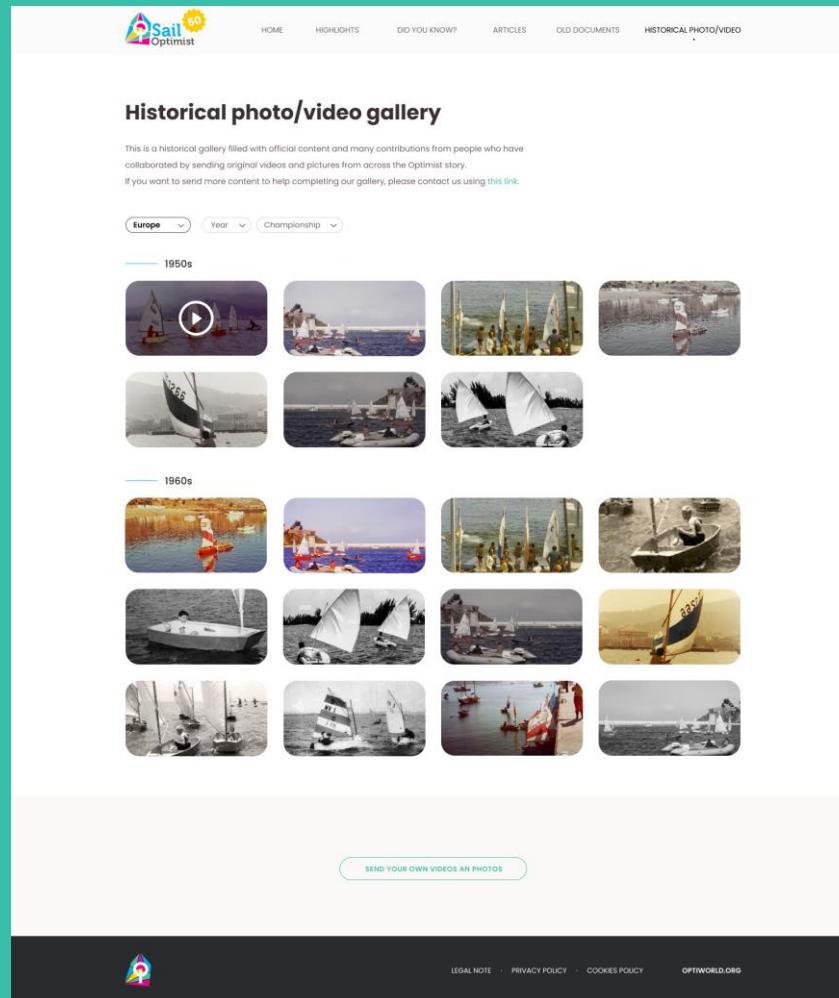
The screenshot shows the 'Articles' section of the Sail Optimist website. The top navigation bar includes links for HOME, HIGHLIGHTS, DID YOU KNOW?, ARTICLES (with a dropdown menu), OLD DOCUMENTS, and HISTORICAL PHOTO/VIDEO. The 'ARTICLES' section is currently selected. Below the navigation, there are four article cards, each with a thumbnail image, the author's name, a brief description, and a 'READ MORE' button.

- Joaquin Blanco**  
Interview  
European Championship 2001 and 2002  
"The Optimist taught me to enjoy this sport, meet new people and places, spend time with my friends, change the air after going to school during the week.."  
[READ MORE](#)
- Viggo Jacobsen**  
Hall of fame  
Founder of the International Optimist Dinghy Association and president until 1982  
The History records that: "The International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA) was founded at the fourth Regatta in 1965 in Turku in Finland. The first members were...  
[READ MORE](#)
- Hannah Mills**  
Report  
Silver medal at the London 2012 Olympics, gold in Rio 2016 and gold again in Tokyo 2020  
Hannah Mills put the sport on notice at the 2003 Optimist World Championship, finishing first girl and fifth overall.  
[READ MORE](#)
- Xavi García Muret**  
Interview  
Augue ultricies cum egestas volutpat aliquet eu enim.  
In mauris nisl massa accumsan eget. Nunc consequat consectetur amet aliquet dolor. Semper libero ut in vitae a ultricies at. Cras eget in nisi tellus id tellus eulsmid.  
[READ MORE](#)

At the bottom of the page, a dark footer bar contains the Sail Optimist logo, links for LEGAL NOTE, PRIVACY POLICY, COOKIES POLICY, and OPTIWORLD.ORG, and a small circular icon.

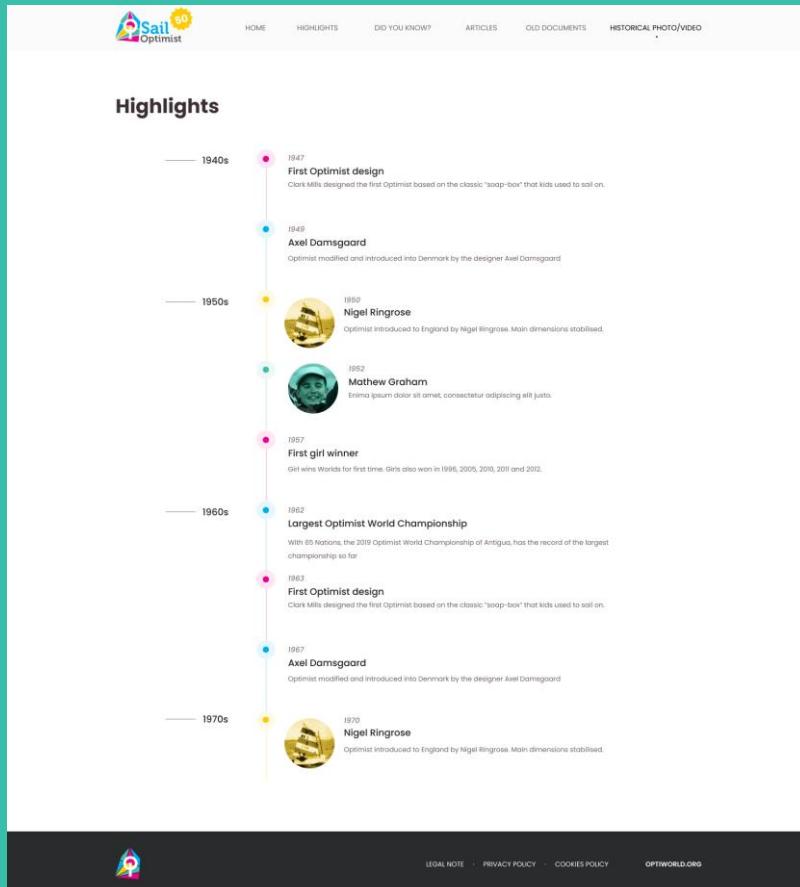
# Photo and Video Gallery for Members and Sailors

## ABOUT Members and Sailors – from Then to Now



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Sail Optimist website, specifically the 'Historical photo/video gallery' section. The header features the 'Sail Optimist' logo with a stylized sailboat icon and the text 'Sail Optimist' in blue and yellow. The main navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'HIGHLIGHTS', 'DID YOU KNOW?', 'ARTICLES', 'OLD DOCUMENTS', and 'HISTORICAL PHOTO/VIDEO'. Below the menu, a sub-menu for the 'Historical photo/video gallery' is shown with dropdowns for 'Europe', 'Year', and 'Championship'. The main content area is titled 'Historical photo/video gallery' and includes a descriptive text about the gallery's purpose and a link for users to contribute more content. The content is organized into two main sections: '1950s' and '1960s', each featuring a grid of historical photographs of sailboats. At the bottom of the page is a call-to-action button labeled 'SEND YOUR OWN VIDEOS AND PHOTOS' and a footer with links to 'LEGAL NOTE', 'PRIVACY POLICY', 'COOKIES POLICY', and 'OPTIWORLD.ORG'.

# Timelines of Important Moments throughout the over 60 years of the Optimist Boat - worldwide



The screenshot shows a website for 'Sail Optimist' with a navigation bar at the top: HOME, HIGHLIGHTS, DID YOU KNOW?, ARTICLES, OLD DOCUMENTS, and HISTORICAL PHOTO/VIDEO. The main content is titled 'Highlights' and features a vertical timeline of events from the 1940s to the 1970s. Each event is marked with a colored dot and a year, followed by a title and a brief description. Some events include small profile pictures. The timeline is divided into decades: 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s.

| Decade | Year           | Event                                                                        | Description                                                                                                          |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1940s  | 1947           | First Optimist design                                                        | Clark Mills designed the first Optimist based on the classic "soap-box" that kids used to sail on.                   |
| 1949   | Axel Damsgaard | Optimist modified and introduced into Denmark by the designer Axel Damsgaard |                                                                                                                      |
| 1950s  | 1950           | Nigel Ringrose                                                               | Optimist introduced to England by Nigel Ringrose. Main dimensions stabilised.                                        |
|        | 1952           | Mathew Graham                                                                | Enim ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit justo.                                                        |
|        | 1957           | First girl winner                                                            | Girl wins Worlds for first time. Girls also won in 1998, 2005, 2010, 2011 and 2012.                                  |
| 1960s  | 1962           | Largest Optimist World Championship                                          | With 85 Nations, the 2019 Optimist World Championship of Antigua, has the record of the largest championship so far. |
|        | 1963           | First Optimist design                                                        | Clark Mills designed the first Optimist based on the classic "soap-box" that kids used to sail on.                   |
|        | 1967           | Axel Damsgaard                                                               | Optimist modified and introduced into Denmark by the designer Axel Damsgaard                                         |
| 1970s  | 1970           | Nigel Ringrose                                                               | Optimist introduced to England by Nigel Ringrose. Main dimensions stabilised.                                        |

At the bottom of the page is a dark footer bar with the 'Sail Optimist' logo, links to 'LEGAL NOTE', 'PRIVACY POLICY', 'COOKIES POLICY', and 'OPTIWORLD.ORG'.



A large fleet of blue Optimist dinghies is shown sailing on the water. The boats are angled towards the right, creating a sense of motion. The background is a clear blue sky.

# Thank you

International Optimist Dinghy Association

[www.optiworld.org](http://www.optiworld.org)