

2019 Victorian International Optimist Presidents Report

We have had a very successful year in the Victorian Fleet with continue growth in participation numbers, increased performance results and a record number of sailors travelling to interstate and international regattas.

2018 Australian Sailing – Victorian Coaching Program of the Year:

Firstly, it is with great pleasure to announce that VIODA received the special honour of the 2018 Australian Sailing –Victoria Coaching Program of the Year. We are so proud of our fleet and everything our sailors, our coaches and our community achieve. A special mention to Sam Mackay our State Coach who has been instrumental in the development of the culture of our fleet.

2019 Australian Optimist Teams Racing Champions:

Congratulations to all the sailors for their achievements at the 2019 Nationals in Hobart. We were thrilled to have the Victorian team of Matty Goss, Tana Deyell, Phillip Cripsey & Mason Mahoney become the 2019 Optimist Teams Racing National Champions. It has been many years since Victoria has dominated this event and it was simply brilliant seeing so many of their fellow Victorian sailors and parents cheering from the shore and jumping up and down with delight when we won. It is wonderful to see such passion for their sport, their clubs, their state and their class of boat.

2019 Australian Optimist Sailing Selection at the Nationals:

Congratulations to all the sailors who have made Australian teams for 2019 including:

- AOST – Europeans
 - Mason Mahoney
- AOST - Asians & Oceanians
 - Matty Goss
 - Phillip Cripsey
 - Cameron Berry
 - Scarlett Zerbe
- AODS – New Caledonia
 - Ellen Sampson
- AOSDS – Thailand
 - Hamish Berry
 - Hamish Gilsenan
 - Hugo Vandame
 - Aidan Simmons
 - Riley Cantwell
 - Khan Harris Moore

VIODA Touring Team:

This year we had made sailors travelling interstate and overseas to improve their fleet racing experience. The families have enjoyed travelling together and sharing the journey through junior sailing. The tours for the fleets this year have included:

- China Tour – aimed at our Intermediate sailors
 - Sarah Goss, Ben Hemingway, Oskar Meinke, Natalie Gleeson, Angelique Gleeson, Arrabella Henderson, Oliver Beretta.
- NZ Tour – Matty Goss, Linus Talacko, Finn McMahon, Hamish and Cameron Berry, Will McKenzie, Claudia McMahon, Anna & Phillip Cripsey.

VIODA Winter training:

During the winter we had fantastic training in at Albert Park Lake. This program continues to grow and we had record numbers of 56 sailors training throughout the winter months. Thank you to all the clubs and club coaches for supporting this initiative. We look forward to even bigger numbers in at the lake again this year.

Thank you to our VIODA head coach Sam Mackay who has been a loyal and supportive friend of VIODA and the sailors for several years now. Sam Mackay will be travelling to Oman this year with the Asians Team in October, and with the China Exchange program to Qingdao in August. Sam is a wonderful role model and the success of the Victorian fleet is a tribute to your dedication and talent as a coach.

Thank you to the VIODA volunteer committee for 2018/19 for all your time and effort in helping the International Optimist class in Victoria.

Kate Goss
VIODA President 2018/19