

Swiss Opti News: Happy New Year 2025!



Dear Sailors, dear Parents, dear Friends,

2024 is now over, and we hope that it was full of joyful and memorable events. Regarding our beloved Sailing Sport, we had some of those for sure, on the waters, and on the shore as well.

We started the season in Lugano, followed by Thun, Versoix, Fluelen and Kreuzlingen for the national regattas. Eivinn remained the boss on our lakes of in the 2023-24 season, and he would have saved his Swiss Champion title, if we did not have guests in an unprecedented number in Versoix, especially Olha from Ukraine among them. Among the girls Justine was the hardest to beat, while in the Opti B fleet Tim was invincible this year.

Versoix was also home to the Team Race Swiss Championship, and the local team thanked the efforts organizers and volunteers by dominating the event.



We travelled to Palamos and to Portoroz for the selection regattas, and we saw Eivinn, Tenma, Lewin, Edward and Lena qualifying for the World Championship in Argentina, and Yann, Alina, Andrea, Loïc, Cyril, Mey and Elsa for the European Championship in Carrara.

The best result in Carrara were Alina with the 25th place among the girls, and Cyril finishing 53 the among the boys. A big thanks once more to Luka, the National Coach of the European Championship team.



There was also a Team Race European Championship in Monaco. This year we selected the team not just based on the individual results, but also based on the training Week-End organised in Lausanne together with the Swiss Sailing Team. The results in Monaco were not quite at the expectations the main reasons being independent of the team, but for sure we have to try to do more Team-Racing.

The World Championship took place last year in December, being in the southern hemisphere. We had the time to organise two special trainings for the national team, one in Cascais, Portugal and one in Malta, both known to have conditions closer to Mar del Plata. This was probably a good preparation because all the team qualified to either the gold or the silver fleet, and Edward finished at an exceptional 29th place. A big thanks to Peri, the national coach of the Worlds Team!



We also organised a Talent Camp in Campione del Garda for the 4 best ranked 2013 (B) and 4 best ranked 2012 sailors. We will hopefully see their improvement starting from next year, but for sure they had fun and learned a lot.



All these events and results, and even much more can be found on our Website (<https://swissoptimist.ch>).

Now that 2025 is upon us, there is not much time to rest. Those who are beyond the Optimist Age (16 years in 2025) will not receive this Newsletter, but we wish them once more a lot of success in their new classes. We have no doubt that they will continue to Sail at the highest levels.

For those who stay with us, registration to the selections is now open and will be possible until the start of the selection regatta in Palamos. By now you are hopefully all entered for Palamos, and be ready to register for Portoroz as soon as it opens.

If you register for the selection, you will have to confirm the size of your cloths again, each of you will get a surprise that may not be a lycra this year. You can also order the Swiss Optimist life-jacket, this is optional and not reserved to the participants of the selection. Finally each of you will have to pay the Swiss Optimist Yearly fee before the first PM. (Click Manage on the Members list of your website.) Our fees are the same as in 2024, of course the cost of participation to the international events will be adapted.

All our best wishes of Happiness and Success to you and your families for the New Year, and we hope to see you very soon again!

Your Swiss Optimist Committee:

David (P&R2), Tanja (VP), Frédérique (S&R1), Monika (F), Marcelo (T), Jean-Pierre (R), Kari (R3) , Damir (R4), Tom (R5), Benedikt (R6) and Edoardo (R8)

