

Olympic Ex-Optimists 2024

15 of the 18 Olympic boat skipper medallists were Under-16 Internationals in the Optimist Class

Gold:

- ILCA7:** Matt Wearn (AUS) 2008
ILCA6: Marit Bouwmeester (NED) 2003
Mixed 470: Lara Vadlau (AUT) 2008
Skiff - M Diego Botin (ESP) 2010
Skiff -W Odile van Aanholt (NED) 2011
Multihull: Ruggero Tita (ITA) 2007

Silver:

- ILCA6:** Anne-Marie Rindom (DEN) 2006
Mixed 470: Keiju Okada (JPN) 2008
Skiff -M: Isaac McHardie (NZL) 2011
Skiff-F: Vilma Bobeck (SWE) 2011
Multihull: Mateo Majdalani (ARG) 2008

Bronze:

- ILCA7:** Stefano Peschiera (PER) 2008
Mixed 470: Anton Dahlberg (SWE) 2000
Skiff - M: Ian Barrows (USA) 2008
Multihull: Erica Dawson (NZL) 2008

2008 - a vintage year



Not only did seven of the 2024 medallists sail in the same event, so did 2020 medallists Hermann Tomasgaard (NOR) and Jordi Xammar (ESP)

All participated in an Optimist World or Continental Championship.

The other three all sailed Optimists but not, as far as is known, internationally.

Not just the big countries

The worldwide spread of Optimist events means that Olympians from

Aruba B.V.I. Cayman El Salvador Mozambique Samoa St. Lucia

are known to have participated internationally, mostly in IODA's six Continental Championships.