**470 eTIMES**

**Photo: Getty Images**

**VICTOR KOVALENKO:** "I CHALLENGE ANYONE TO MENTION ME OTHER OLYMPIC SPORTS PERFORMED BY WOMEN WHERE 33 COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED IN A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP"

:: Page 2/3

**470 INTERNATIONALE SAILORS’ SUPPORT PROGRAMMES**

**4 YEARS SUPPORT TO ASPRIED ATHLETES**

In total, over the 4 years, 39 crews from 25 countries have been helped through the 470 Internationale’s Sailors’ Support Programmes.

:: Page 5/7

**470 ATHLETES**

Top players in the international 470 class. Why do they race and what makes them go for more? Maybe you can learn something from them for your own racing!

In this issue an interview with Sylvia Vogl (AUT), and future athlete Tina Lutz (GER)

:: Page 11/12

**LONDON 2012**

**MALCOLM PAGE**

"Give a month, and I will say more. I cannot tell with whom, but it will be definitely in 470s"

**LOBKE BERKHOUT**

"I have no desire to say goodbye and leave it all behind me” - “My first thoughts are with the 470s”

:: Page 3

**470 eTIMES**

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“MEDAL MAKER”

VICTOR KOVALENKO HAS DONE IT AGAIN.

BY RICK VAN WIJNGAARDEN

Victor KOVALENKO added two Golden medals to his portfolio in Qingdao, now cumulated in five times Olympic Gold, three times the Bronze, not to speak of twelve World Titles and nine victories in the Open Europeans as a coach. KOVALENKO seems to have the magic ability to support an athlete to turn a dream into reality.

In an interview with KOVALENKO, probably one of worlds’ most successful sports coaches in history, he shares experiences and thoughts since Sydney 2000, and shares his vision about the Olympic sailing movement.

Besides his wish to make an athlete’s dream come true and manage their campaigns, KOVALENKO maintains his own personal ambition to raise the number of Olympic medals and titles on his name as a coach, in other words: making medals.

No medals were brought to Australia in 2004, although Nathan WILMOT and Malcolm PAGE won their first World Title in the 470 Class just a few months prior to the Olympics.

“We had bad luck. WILMOT and PAGE were disqualified in a race during the start of the event. In such a situation, you start to take risks to get back into a position with perspective for medals.

Belinda STOWELL got sick at the start of the event, and gave the virus to Jenny ARMSTRONG. She got sick in the final phase.

Of course I also have my personal objectives. Especially after Athens, there was a big challenge.” KOVALENKO said.

And success came. In heavy conditions at the ISAF Worlds in Cascais, the Australian men won their third World title. RECHICH and PARKINSON made it to the medal race, but the power of Dutch duo DE KONING and BERKHOUT, World Champions of 2006 in light conditions and now becoming undefeatable World Champions for the third time in a row, like in 2005 in heavy conditions, kept the Australian women in the shadow of predictions for Olympic Gold.

One month later, WILMOT and PAGE claim the Gold medal at the last Test Event in Qingdao in the Men’s Two Person Dinghy, as well as Elise RECHICH and Tessa PARKINSON in the Women’s.

Victor KOVALENKO, hardly ever talking about himself, or claiming successes of athletes under his wings, lists the points, in his vision, what it takes a coach to support athletes on their way to success.

“When I work with people, I try to look into their minds, try to explore their unique abilities and develop those.

As a coach you also need to be able to design a program, and there are a lot of criteria to take into account.

The year 2007 was the toughest. We prepared to peak at two top events. A heavy wind event at the ISAF Sailing World Championships in Cascais, and a light wind event the month after at the last Test Event in Qingdao. In 2008 this was a lot easier.” he said

“A sailor reaching the top in the 470 Class, can sail any boat or class available.”

“Sailing a 470 on Olympic levels requires everything that justifies a sportsman calling himself an athlete. It needs fitness, analytic abilities, technical and tactical skills, knowledge of equipment and aerodynamics.

Making speed in a 470 needs full use of brain and body.

With all the skills and knowledge developed in a competitive 470 campaign, one can sail any boat or class and win.

About a month ago, Nicholas CHARBONNIER (bronze medalist Olympic sailing regatta 2008) participated in a multihull event in Valencia and became second. There are so many examples of events where 470 sailors have been, and continue to be successful in other classes such as the 49er, Star and Tornado. With the 470, these are all high performance classes.

Nathan Oteridge, a very talented sailor, successful in 420’s, continued in 470’s and moved on to the 49ers and became 49er World Champion this year.

Nathan WILMOT has set his mind on the Star class, and Malcolm PAGE? We’ll see.

I want to go on with 470’s onto London 2012. It’s an amazing boat and my favorite class.

I like one-designs. There are classes where it is difficult to buy a boat because they have significant differences, or that they are equipped with exclusive riggings and fittings.

The 470 is built by just a few licensed and dedicated builders, who have to be competitive to build the best boat within very small margins of flexibility within the strict class rules. The boats are fitted with equipment that you can buy just by walking into any store. I remember this time where we just borrowed a mast from the Austrian team, and we won the race. That is sportsmanship and one-design.” he said

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>
INTERVIEW WITH VICTOR KOVALENKO

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE <<

KOVALENKO: “The 470 will have the Olympic status for Men as well as for Women for a long time, wait and see!”

“When 470 sailors grow too heavy, or they need a new challenge after a successful 470 career, they have the opportunity to start a 49er campaign with all their skills and knowledge gained in 470’s. Both classes add value, it should not be a choice.

WILMOT and PACE could be very successful in a 49er campaign, so would the COSTER brothers from The Netherlands.

The discussion about which boat is more interesting for the public is useless. The 49er medal race in Qingdao was painful! A disaster for the sport! Think of a Formula 1 race where all the favorite cars crash. Maybe spectacular for the public, but what is a sport without a winner of the game itself.

A 470 can be sailed in all conditions, light and heavy. The 470 medal races would have been very exciting in the heavy conditions of the day of the 49er’s medal race. Maybe only one would have capsized, and the best would have been the winner.” he said.

“What is a high performance boat for women? The 470 is! ”

“And about the 470 Women. This issue has been discussed for so many times now! What is a high performance boat for women? The 470 is! The 29er is not a high performance boat. The 49er is. If there should be any need to replace the 470, or to add a high performance dinghy to the program, such a class should at least raise the high performance characteristics of women’s double handed sailing, raise the level of performance, and raise global competition in numbers of represented countries.

Sailing a 470 and reaching the top needs a lot of skills. A 470 crew can easily step into any boat and win a regatta. If anyone thinks that another “high performance” dinghy would be better, the leading 470 women must have a challenge in a mature class. Sailors in such another class must have the ability to compete at the top with a 470 crew. There have been several examples the last few years where it showed that such a dinghy has not been found yet.

We have to face that the 470 class has about twelve women’s crews from all parts over the world performing at exceptional levels in the 470 class, in terms of sports in general.

Development of women’s sports is such a hot issue, and I don’t understand the discussion about putting the 470 as a two person dinghy on the line. I challenge anyone to mention other Olympic Sports performed by women where 33 countries are represented in a World Championship.”

KOVALENKO: “I challenge anyone to mention me other Olympic Sports performed by women where 33 countries are represented in a World Championship”

HEAVY WIND WORRIERS, LIGHT WIND WINNERS

Nathan WILMOT and Malcolm PAGE have written history with their exceptional results in the past four years in the Men’s 470. Gold at the World Championships of 2004, 2005 and 2007, a silver medal at the Worlds of 2006, and finally Gold at the Olympic Sailing Regatta in 2008.

It was already known that the Australian men had decided not to go on as a team in another Olympic campaign after Qingdao 2008. Will these sailing sport heroes leave the Olympic sailing arena?

Malcolm PAGE; “Give a month, and I will say more. I cannot tell with whom, but it will be definitely in 470’s”

WILMOT and PACE started sailing 470s together shortly before the Olympics of Sydney 2000, with hopes to make their Olympic debut in their home country.

“We had some good times together, however with ups and downs.” PAGE said. We saw Sydney 2000 going by, we failed in Athens 2004 and missed the Gold medal at the Worlds in 2006. Those are about the hardest things we had to deal with in eight years fighting for what we have achieved last August. We have learned from failures; What doesn’t kill us, makes us strong,” he said

THE ULTIMATE GOAL

And finally, their efforts bring them to the ultimate goal. Their lead in the final phase in Qingdao was even stronger than their lead in the medal race at the ISAF Sailing World Championships in 2007. WILMOT and PAGE finished their job after more than eight years of hard work by starting the medal race with Gold on their shoulders, and honorably win it, to have them remembered as the most successful Men’s 470 crew ever until today.

“A lot of people say we are heavy wind sailors. There is a lot of wind in Australia of course, and very often it’s attractive to go out there and play. It made us experienced in such conditions. The last period prior to the Olympics, we have focused on doing the opposite, meaning to get onto the water at moments you never go out for fun; in light, ‘cracky’ winds.” PAGE said

WILMOT and PAGE have finished their business. Nathan WILMOT will look for a challenge in another class, Malcolm PAGE has set his mind on London 2012 in 470s.

“The 470 is an amazing class, and the boat is very technical. The boat is suitable for multiple sizes of human bodies, which allows people from all over the world to sail it.

The global competition in the 470 class is phenomenal. Compared to many other classes, the crew in a 470 is able to control a lot in the boat.” he said.

PAGE 3
Interview with Lobke Berkhout

Lobke Berkhout Announces a Possible Comeback onto London 2012.

Berkhout: “As I was standing on the podium with a medal around my neck, I thought: is this it? is it all over now? I have no desire to say goodbye and leave it all behind me.”

Marcelien de Koning and Lobke Berkhout are among the most successful Olympic sailing crews of the latest Olympic quadrennium. With three World Titles in a row; 2005, 2006 and 2007, they land on the podium at the Olympic Sailing Regatta with a silver medal.

“The decision fell in race 10, the last race before the medal race. We thought that the wind conditions would have the same characteristics as the days before. But this was an afternoon race and the wind turned into another direction as we planned. We fell back, and at that moment, we knew we had to recognize that Rechichi and Parkinson were too strong for us in these light conditions. We had to continue for Silver instead of Gold. We were fine with it and started relaxed in the final medal race. We made some mistakes, but we stayed calm and picked back spot by spot. Berkhout said.

The Black Hole in Heaven Exists

Coming home, life changes when there is no plan for the future, no training and events on the schedule. A dream that started at a young age has been achieved.

Lobke Berkhout, (28), had her first international success as European Champion Optimist in 1994. After Optimist, she started sailing 420s where her excellent abilities and performance as a crew were mentioned as a model of crewing perfectionism.

She became silver medalist at the 1998 ISAF Youth World Championships in Cape Town in 420s and had first success in the 470 class becoming first girls’ crew at the 470 Junior World Championship in 2000.

“The feeling I had on the podium, is my feeling still today. I want to go on! If I stop now, I can be totally satisfied with what I have achieved.

This also plays a role in how I will decide about the future. If I continue an Olympic sailing career, it has to be challenging!

My first thoughts are with the 470s because there is so much variety sailing the dinghy. It can be sailed in a large range of conditions, from light to really heavy. Each condition and situation requires another way you handle team work and boat handling. The more wind, the more influence the crew has on tactics. In light winds the crew has a lot of influence on the boat speed. It makes the entire sailing game more exciting.

I have made no decisions yet, and I didn’t even talk about it yet with Marcelien.” she said

“If I continue an Olympic sailing career, It has to be challenging!”

With her positive attitude, a high level of discipline, and a drive to make the best of what she does, she expects a similar attitude from people around her when a job has to be done. A decision about continuing in another campaign is not just a short term decision, you only live once.

“The last few months, it felt strange not having a schedule that tells me that I will be training or racing. I get more connected now to the common world. Sometimes I get confronted with things in daily life that people around me do not have strong ambitions to achieve goals and make best efforts in what they do. Especially that feeling gives me a sign, that I am too young to stop, and I am sure that at the time I will be 40, I will regret that I stopped.” she said.

The Psychology of a Long Term Obligation to Do What Does Not Excite You

Like Malcolm Page also described: One get’s excited to go sailing when there are challenging heavy conditions out there. Training for Qingdao was the opposite, one had to go training especially when conditions were far from exciting.

After last year’s Test Event we knew that there were a lot of things we had to work on, and the thought we had to fix those within a year, kind of scared me.

I love the racing and competition but sometimes training started to bore me, sailing upwind for hours and not getting a feeling of satisfaction.

You have to deal with it, personally, and as a team. Fortunately we had very good support from our sports psychologist, relation therapist, of course our team manager Jacco Koops, and many others.” she said

Still a Challenge to Break Records

Although Berkhout mentioned that she wants to go on, no decisions have been made yet, and no conversation on the subject has taken place yet with De Koning, she shared her personal thoughts in this interview. BERKHOUT seeks for a challenge.

The athlete makes the decision, however for the sailing sport it would be exciting if this crew, hanged with gold and silver medals through the years, would challenge the efforts and victories of Sofia Bekatorou and Emilia Tsoulfa from Greece; World Champions for four times, Olympic Gold Medalists of Athens 2004 and two times ISAF World Sailors of the year.

Berkhout described her feelings about preparing for the light wind conditions in Qingdao. More attractive conditions as they are known in Weymouth, the proposed Olympic sailing venue for 2012, may have a positive influence on a decision for a comeback.
4 YEARS OF 470 INTERNATIONALE SAILORS’ SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

470 INTERNATIONALE

In order to support the most important members of our class, the sailors, we have developed a sequence of Sailors’ Support Programmes in the past years. The André Cornu Grant and the Junior Support Programme is a support for the juniors, while the Solidarity Programmes are providing support for those who wish to enter the 470 scene at a higher level with Olympic participation as a focus of their goals.

In total, over the 4 years, 39 crews from 25 countries have been helped through the 470 Internationale’s Sailors’ Support Programmes.

THE ANDRÉ CORNU GRANT

The International 470 Class Association launched the André Cornu Grant in 2005 in order to honour him (passed away in the summer of 2003), the French naval architect who “gave birth” to the 470, the fast, athletic and tactical boat that every one knows.

André paid always a lot of attention to the youth and, every time he could see young girls and boys sailing in 470, he used to say: “I am so proud of having contributed with the 470 to give them a chance to have fun”. The International 470 Class Association thought that the best way to pay the right tribute to André was to set up a grant dedicated to the youth and more specifically to the winners of the boys’ and girls’ double handed dinghy event at the Volvo Youth Sailing ISAF World Championship. The grant consists of an money price of the amount of 1,000,00 Euro that was awarded to each of the winning Boy and Girl crews of the above mentioned championship, if they decided to take part either in the 470 Class Junior World Championships or in the 470 Class World Championships in the following sailing season.

The Cornu Family happily joined in 2005 the launch of this grant and is now fully backing it by providing a consistent financial support every year.

The winners of the André Cornu Grant:

2006  TERENCE KOH - SINGAPORE
2007  CARL EVANS AND PETER BURLING - NEW ZEALAND
       CHELSEA HALL - AUSTRALIA
2008  SEBASTIAN PERI BRUSA AND SANTIAGO MASSERSONI
       ARGENTINA
       HENRIK RASK SOGAARD AND SOREN WIEGAND KRISTENSEN
       DENMARK

JUNIOR (FEMALE AND MALE) SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Following to the 2005 experience, the International 470 Class Association has decided, in close cooperation with Nautivela Srl (Milan, Italy – www.nautivela.com) as sponsor, to renew the Junior Female Support Programme into Junior Support Programme dedicated both to the Female and Male crews.

This programme was originally dedicated to the two youngest female crews (combined age of skipper and crew) competing in the 470 Junior (under 22 years of age) World Championship and consisted in two grants of 900,00 € (cash) each. Thanks to the support of Nautivela, the International 470 Class Association could increase the number of the grants from two to three and extend also to male. All the female and male crews are eligible for such grants (the calculation of the combined age is made at the regatta venue after the closing of the entry procedure) but only the two youngest female crews and the youngest male crew received the grants at the awarding ceremony, provided that the winning crew members were personally present at such ceremony.

The winners of the Junior Support Programme:

2005  ADI GILBOA AND RAVID KANONICH - ISRAEL
       HANNA SAARI AND MIKAELA WULFF - FINLAND
2006  EMIL NINCEVIC AND ZUPAN ROMANA - CROATIA
       ANIA KULA AND EVA KULA - POLAND
       NIKOLAI KOROPECKI AND KRZYSZTOF KOROPECKI - POLAND
2007  SARA QUATTROCHIO AND FABIOLA USANNA - ITALY
       DANA GUR AND RAVID KANONICH - ISRAEL
       EMIL YANKOV AND ALEX IVANOV - BULGARIA
2008  GEVA TAL AND MIA LEBEL - ISRAEL
       IRMINA GLYSZINSKA AND JUTYTA GLYSZINSKA - POLAND
       KACPIL OLSZEWSKI AND PATRYK RUSCZYSZ - POLAND

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>
2008 OLYMPIC PATHWAY SOLIDARITY GRANT

PART 1.
CHARTEORED BOATS FOR THE 2007 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The International 470 Class Association was strongly committed to help the 470 sailors around the world (and to cooperate with their National 470 Class Associations and National Sailing Authorities) in competing in the 2007 and 2008 World Championships, sailed in Cascais (Portugal) in 2007 and in Melbourne (Australia) in 2008 respectively. These two events were qualification regattas of the nations for the 2008 Olympic Games.

In order to help the 470 sailors to take part in the 2007 Worlds, the International 470 Class Association has decided to set up a specific grant (the 2008 Olympic Pathway Solidarity Grant, “2008 OPSG”). The first step of the 2008 OPSG consisted of providing to the admitted sailors the chance to rent for free up to 6 (six) chartered 470s from Nautivela (www.nautivela.com). The sailors had only to borne the cost of transportation between Italy and Portugal. These boats were made available in Cascais and ready to sail, but without sails.

The eligible crews were:

* those crews from nations having a National 470 Class Association affiliated to the International 470 Class Association, provided that the relevant National 470 Class Association has paid the annual fees to the International 470 Class Association for the year 2007,

* those crews from other nations who are affiliated to the International 470 Class Association as Individual Members, provided that they have paid the annual fee to the International 470 Class Association for the year 2007,

and provided in both cases that no crew from the relevant nations has competed in one of the International 470 Class Championships within the past two years (2005 and 2006).

In addition to charter boats, a one week training camp before the World Championship was organized in Cascais for the sailors taking part in the program, carried out by Marta Weires. The training camp was supported by Dolphin Maritime (www.dolphin-maritime.nl) in form of a coach boat use for the support of the training and coaching activities during the Worlds.

PART 2.
FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR COUNTRIES AIMING QUALIFICATION FOR THE 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

The International 470 Class Association were strongly committed to help the 470 sailors around the world (and to cooperate with their National 470 Class Associations and National Sailing Authorities) in competing at the 2008 World Championships, to be sailed in Melbourne, Australia in 2008. This event was the last qualification regatta of the nations for the 2008 Olympic Games.

In order to help the 470 sailors from the countries where Olympic sailing is less active and support them to take part in the 2008 Worlds, the International 470 Class Association has set up a specific grant (the 2008 Olympic Pathway Solidarity Grant, “2008 OPSG”). The first part of the 2008 OPSG consisted of providing to the admitted sailors the chance to rent for free up to 6 (six) chartered 470s from Nautivela (www.nautivela.com) for the 2007 World Championship in Cascais. The second part of the grant provided financial support for teams for their boat shipping to the venue of the 2008 World Championship.

The eligible crews for the second part of the program were:

* those crews from nations having a National 470 Class Association affiliated to the International 470 Class Association, provided that the relevant National 470 Class Association has paid the annual fees to the International 470 Class Association in 2007 and 2008

* those crews from other nations who are affiliated to the International 470 Class Association as Individual Members, provided that they have paid the annual fee to the International 470 Class Association in 2007 and 2008

THE SUPPORT OF 10,000,00 EUR WAS GRANTED PROPORTIONALLY TO THE FOLLOWING CREWS:

- Fernanda Sesto and Monseguer Consuelo - Argentina
- Bruno van Antwerpen Bruno and Pim Peters - Belgium
- Bernardo Low Beer and Guirimelie Hamermann - Brazil
- Aurelia Zulueta and Josefinia Eluchans - Chile
- Alberto Tito Gonzales and Diego Gonzales - Chile
- Catherine Carroll and Chi Han Yau - Hong Kong
- Eva Yuen Wa Leung and Elsa Sz Kei Cheng - Hong Kong
- Isamu Kendal Sakai and Tong Ping Shun - Hong Kong
- Kam Lui and Siu Kit Tse - Hong Kong
- Gabor Sallai and David Oloz - Hungary
- Andras Vigil and Balint Perjes - Hungary

THE PARTICIPATING CREWS WERE:

- Mike and Brennan Robinson - Republic of South Africa
- Rodgely Balladare and Romwel Chavez - Philippines
- Razman Mat Ali and Hakhimi Ahmad - Malaysia
- Juan Jose Delgado and Jason Hess - Guatemala
- Taylor Canfield and Nathan Rosenberg - US Virgin Islands
- Catherine Jing Yi Carroll and Yau Chi Han - Hong Kong, who could not attend due to injury of one crew member just before the World Championships and who were replaced by:
  - Gregory Reuvers and Matthew Rickard - Republic of South Africa

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>
THE SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME

The Solidarity Programme was run in 2006 and 2007 in close co-operation with Olimpic Sails® (Trieste, Italy – www.olisails.it) as the sole Official Sponsor.

The goal of the Solidarity Programme is to support crews from countries with growing Olympic sailing level as well as crews with the aim of running their own Olympic sailing campaign. The Solidarity Programme was targeting potential crew interested in the challenge of competing in 470 at international level against the most famous and high competitive crews.

The crew selection was based on evaluation of questionnaires that the sailors had to fill out. The crews admitted to the programme have received free sails from Olimpic Sails, the sole Official Sponsor of the programme. In addition to equipment support, the International 470 Class Association supported the admitted crews in paying the fees for entering in one of its Championships (Worlds, Europeans, Junior World, Junior Europeans and Master’s Cup).

THE FOLLOWING 6 CREWS WERE ADMITTED TO THE SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME:

- IULIA NEGUESCU and GEORGIANA STOIAN - ROMANIA
- DALE RAE and TIFFANY BARING-GOULD - REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
- IGOR IVANCIAR and DEJAN ANTIC - SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
- SUTEEM POONPAT and WORAWIT WORASAN - THAILAND
- JUAN IGNACIO SIERRA CASTIGLIONI and ANDRES AZAR CHIAPPINI - URUGUAY
- ZULUETA MAURICIO and TOPASIO VIRGILIO - CHILE

INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009

- 470 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009
  - 5-14 JUNE 2009 / LAKE Traunsee, AUSTRIA
  - www.470.org

- 470 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009
  - 24 JULY - 1 AUGUST 2009 / THESSALONIKI, GREECE
  - www.470.org

- 470 JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009
  (combined with the 420 JEC)
  - 8-16 AUGUST 2009 / BALATON, HUNGARY
  - www.470.org

- 470 MASTERS CUP 2009
  - 2-7 AUGUST 2009 / ACHESEE, AUSTRIA
  - www.470.org

- 470 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009
  - 20-29 AUGUST 2009 / COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
  - www.470.org

Full Calendar of International Events is available on the 470 Class web site: www.470.org | Regattas

470 INTERNAZIONALE

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- FERNANDA SESTO
- IULIA NEGUESCU
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The International 470 Class Association has elected it’s new Management Committee and President for a new 4 year mandate. Stanislav KASSAROV (BUL) was elected as new President, taking over the Class’ hammer from Alberto Predieri from Italy, who stepped back to extend his sailing administration career as ISAF Vice President.

KASSAROV has been active in many administration positions within the Bulgarian Sailing Federation, and has provided valuable support to the Class’ Management for many years.

Alain CORCUFF (FRA), Martin STEIGER (SUI) and Dimitris DIMOU (GRE) retain their positions as Secretary General, Treasurer and Chairman of the Technical Committee, while Nino SHMUELI joins the Management Committee as 1st Vice President. Marta WEORES (HUN), stepping back from the position of 1st Vice President on her own request, Iulia NEGOESCU (ROM) and Olympic sailor Fernanda SESTO (ARG) were elected as Management Committee Members.

The election of the new Management Committee took place at the Annual General Assembly in Madrid, on the 16th of November. During this meeting, also and impressive number of bids were presented by countries to host future International 470 Class Championships.

By the decision of the General Assembly, the 470 Class European Championships of 2011 will take place in Helsinki, Finland, as part of the ambitious plan of Finland to combine the European Championships of all Olympic Classes. Largs in Scotland will host the 2012 European Championships.

The International 420 and 470 Class Associations will continue to combine the Junior European Championships. The event in 2010 will take place in La Grande Motte in France, and in Nieuwpoort, Belgium in 2011. The decision of the 2011 event remains subject to the final approval of the 420 Class AGM in 2009.

In 2011, the Junior World Championships will be hosted by Belgium’s neighbor; The Netherlands.

The participation of especially girl’s crews has increased at the “under 22 years old” International 470 Junior Championships the last few years. Besides the efforts taken, and future development plans to support women’s two person dinghy sailing, this increased interest of girl’s crews for two person dinghy sailing has been a reason for the International 470 Class to let both the Junior Worlds and Junior Europeans take place as two separate events for Men/Mixed and Women.

470 INTERNATIONALE

VICTOR KOVALENKO
HONORARY MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL 470 CLASS ASSOCIATION

The General Assembly granted the Honorary Membership of the International 470 Class Association to “Medal-Maker” Victor KOVALENKO (AUS) for his valuable contribution to the development of the 470 Class.

In his work as a coach for the Ukrain sailing team in the past, and since 1997 for the Australian team, KOVALENKO has made extraordinary efforts to bring 470 sailing to the highest levels of sports performance. His work has resulted into 5 Olympic gold medals, three times bronze and 12 World Titles.

KOVALENKO has always shown interest to share and transfer his knowledge with others, in the field, but also during 470 coaching clinics, to support the development in other countries. His work has had a major influence on the strength of the global competition in the 470 Class today.

Besides his contribution to 470 sailing and the sailing sport in general, KOVALENKO has been a member of the Management Board for many years, and finally as Vice President during the last two years. On his own request, KOVALENKO has retired from the Class Management, however the 470 Class may still count on his support in the future.
The 470 Master’s Cup was sailed from 1-6 August this year in Varna, Bulgaria.

A report of the Chief of Masters: Hubert Kirrmann

The 2008 Master’s Cup in Varna is now over, it was a wonderful event. The long travel distance explains that the participation was low with 24 boats, but those who came were rewarded.

The Masters were impressed by the City of Varna, its proud history, blooming life and excellent sailing conditions.

The organization took more than one year, the friendly collaboration of several yacht clubs - and hard work; one week before the event, the cosy club house we enjoyed was a dusty construction site with busy workers, trucks transporting tar and a giant floating crane laying down concrete slabs.

With warm wind, weather and waves, we sailed exiting races with good tactics, but also hard physicals - the pumping flag was up nearly all the time.

The race was open until the last day. Finally, the Master’s Cup Gold was won by Edoardo Contardi Falco and Gianluca Montella (ITA), the Silver by Jörg Saeger and Andreas Giuschke (GER, former title holder) and the Bronze medal by Stefano Ghiglotti and Gian Enzo Ducì (ITA).

The successful Bujor Rosca and Mihai Fagarasan (ROM) team lost the leadership the last day because they forgot to sign off, costing them 5 points on each of the three last races; for a leading team, this is worse than two OCS and there was some discussion why so severe a penalty.

Likewise, the Grand Masters title was won by Martin Steiger and Hans von Moos (SUI), thank to a bold tack on the last day that brought them at the top of the fleet. However, they were never in danger since their adversaries Hubert and Verena Kirrmann (SUI) also forgot to sign off.

The Apprentice Master Title was won without difficulty by Ivan Yordanov and Zahari Yordanov (BUL).

We would like to thank the Bulgarian Sailing Federation, the City and Port of Varna and the Yacht Clubs of Varna for their generous hospitality and competent organization. Especially the opening and closing ceremony were impressive, and the visit of the Museum with the oldest gold objects in history very instructive.

Thanks also to the Racing Committee for the well-laid courses, the international jury for their watching eyes and to the numerous helpers. Our special thanks go to the little Optimist sailors who one day will be the 470 Masters.

The 2008 Master’s Cup was an opportunity to make new friends and I hope we will see some of them at the next 470’s Masters Cup.

Благодаря много и до виждане

Hubert
INVITATION TO COME TRAINING ON CURACAO

CARIBBEAN HEAT AND ATMOSPHERE WITH WEYMOUTH LIKE SAILING CONDITIONS

Marjon Kooistra has campaigned for the Netherlands for the Athens Olympics in the 470 class with Petra de Goerden. In 2005, she moved to Curacao where her dream has been established to develop 470 sailing on the Island, and who knows in a larger perspective..., the entire Caribbean.

Still active in the sailing sport as a coach and trainer for the Dutch Sailing Federation supported Yngling talent development program that finally brought Silver at the Olympic Sailing Regatta, she periodically lives in the Netherlands.

Marjon Kooistra thinks that Curacao is an excellent venue to host winter trainings, and she offers her help to facilitate such activities.

"Curacao is part of the Netherlands Antilles, close to other Islands in the Caribbean like Aruba, Bonaire, Puerto Rico and Tobage, and close to the South American continent with Venezuela as nearest neighbor.

Curacao has sun and pleasant temperatures all through the year. No wonder why millions of people from North America and Europe travel to the Caribbean in the winter.

On top of that, the Caribbean offers excellent sailing conditions."

FACTS:
THE PASSAT WINDS BRING AN EASTERNLY AVG. OF 15 KTS, VARYING BETWEEN 8 - 25 KTS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AVERAGE AIR TEMP.:</th>
<th>28 DEGREES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE WATER TEMP.:</td>
<td>27 DEGREES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAVE HEIGHTS:</td>
<td>1 - 2,5 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT:</td>
<td>0 - 2,5 KTS.</td>
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Source of facts (Marjon Kooistra)

"The sailing conditions on the ocean with waves (a mix of swell and shorter high waves closer to the shore) and current are challenging when the wind picks up. There is also the opportunity to sail inside on the Spanish water. This big lake has an open access to the ocean but protected. The water is flat and the wind can be quite shifty. Great to practice gybing on flat water and more breeze. In what I have concluded, these two very different sailing conditions have a great similarity to Weymouth (sailing in the bay and outside)."

HELP TO ARRANGE LOGISTICS
Marjon Kooistra offers to help arranging logistics with the club, gym, accommodation, transportation and container issues.

"To give an impression, one of the options is staying in the Lion’s Dive Hotel where you can sail off the beach and where all the facilities are in the same location (apartments, great gym, 50 m swimming pool) http://www.lionsdive.com/"

You can also have a look at: http://www.optinam2008.org for some pictures of the Optinam Championships for the Optimist which were organized by the club last Summer"

With her experiences campaigning for the Athens 2004 Olympic Sailing Regatta, and reaching the top 10 of the World Ranking List, Marjon Kooistra also offers her services as coach and trainer on professional bases.

CONTACT INFORMATION
If you are interested to have training activities in the Caribbean, please contact:

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Skype: marjonkooistra
Every E-times we talk with one of the top players in the international 470 class. Why do they race and what makes them go for more? Maybe you can learn something from them for your own racing!

This time we are interviewing Sylvia Vogl (AUT)

Sylvia Vogl

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racing since</th>
<th>1985</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career in the 470 since</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>M.D. International Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profession</td>
<td>Sailor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. If you can describe yourself in 5 words, what would those be?
Committed, organized, enthusiastic, reliable, spontaneous

2. What makes you choose the 470?
I grew up sailing catamarans, and then into skiffs (Laser 5000 and 49er) for many years – so I felt I was missing some technical and tactical aspects of my sailing career. The complexity of the 470 is a big challenge! And it is great to still be able to sail in 30+ knots...!

3. What was your best regatta ever and why?
470 European Championship 2008 – because we were in the top three from the beginning of the series, so the pressure was on... and with a great medal race in 25+ knots we won both the European and Open title!

4. Why do you want to be the helm/crew?
Since my childhood I was mostly helming – so the question of crewing never really came up.

5. What’s sailing 470 like in your country?
We are very lucky to have Matthias & Florian (AUT3) as permanent training partners – surely they are part of our success! At the moment there is a growing activity of young and motivated teams in Austria – I think the contact between the top-teams and newcomers is very important.

6. What is the hardest part of an Olympic campaign?
Honestly the whole package is hard, I can not pick out one specific factor. In my personal case I would say: financing, travelling all year (especially in our case, as we have no sea in Austria) and having an almost 24h/365 days relationship with your crew.

7. What is your best asset to sailing and why?
Spending lots of time in nature and on the water, feeling the boat going through the waves...enjoying the spirit of the sport and being part of the “sailing community”.

**There are three girls in the history of the Optimist class to win the World Championship: Sabrina Landi (ITA) who won gold in 1987, Lisa Westerhof (NED) who won gold in 1996 and Tina Lutz (GER) who won gold in 2005 at the age of 14.**

Three years later, Tina Lutz joins the 470 fleet at the European Championship at Riva del Garda – Italy.

Tina agreed to give an interview for the 470 eTimes.

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**Tina Lutz**

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**Tina, when and where did you start sailing?**

I started sailing at my yacht club when I was 8 years old, the Chiemsee Yacht Club in the south of Germany.

**What classes you did you sail?**

I started sailing an Optimist, and continued in 420s and 29ers with my crew Susann Beucke. Together, we sail 470s now.

**When did you start sailing 470 class?**

We sail 470s since February 2008, so at the 470 Europeans, we were sailing 470s for five months.

**What made your decision to choose the 470 class?**

Susann and I sailed both the 420s and 29ers together. We had to decide whether to continue sailing 29ers or to move to 470s. The 470 class has the Olympic status and we think it's much more fun to sail than a 29er. The fleets are not that big in 29ers, and sailing is not at such a high level like in 470s, so we decided to sail 470s.

**What are your biggest achievements in sailing?**

The biggest achievement so far was in 2005 when I won the World Championship in the Optimist class. In 2004, I won gold at the Optimist Worlds, but only at the girls. I won a lot of German Championships. Last year we became 420 Class Ladies Junior European Champion.

**What are your future goals?**

We want to sail 470 on professional levels, and some day make it to the Olympics.