

Constitution

International OK Dinghy Class Association (OKDIA)

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Status: Draft

- Section 1 - Names and Objects
- Section 2 - Office Bearers
- Section 3 - Membership
- Section 4 - **Executive** Committee
- Section 5 - Meetings of the Association
- Addenda

The OK Dinghy was designed in 1957 by Knud Olsen and was adopted as an International Class in 1972



SECTION 1 - NAMES AND OBJECTS

1 Title

The full title of the Association will be 'THE OK DINGHY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION'

2 Insignia

The insignia of the Class shall be as shown in the Class Rules.

3 Objects

The objects of the International OK Dinghy Association shall be:

- 3.1 To promote, manage and maintain the one design character of the International OK Dinghy, including but not limited to, collaborating with World Sailing and National Authorities in the allotment and issue of World Sailing Building Plaques, World Sailing Building Fee Receipts, serial sail numbers and measurement certificates, and in the keeping of Class Registers.
- 3.2 To promote international racing in the Class.
- 3.3 To ensure the development of the Class in all countries.
- 3.4 To co-ordinate and manage the affairs and the rules of the Class.
- 3.5 To make recommendations on the control of such matters to World Sailing.
- 3.6 To serve the interests of The Owners in the Class by co-ordinating the activities of the National OK Dinghy Class Associations and by maintaining close co-operation with other National Associations and yachting organisations.

4 Terms and Definitions

Throughout these rules the following terms are used:

- 4.1 'OKDIA' shall mean the OK Dinghy International Association.
- 4.2 A 'National Association' shall mean the International OK Dinghy Class National Association organised in individual countries and officially recognised by OKDIA and normally by the relevant National Authority. **These National Associations are 'The Members'.**
- 4.3 'The National Authority' shall mean the World Sailing recognised Member National Authority (MNA) or an organisation controlling and organising the sport of yachting and sailing on a national basis in any country.
- 4.4 'The Committee' shall mean the **Executive** Committee of OKDIA consisting of duly elected Office Bearers and other representatives, all of whom shall be members of a National Association.
- 4.5 'The Association Rules' shall mean the documents governing the conduct of OKDIA. These include this Constitution, the Major Championship Event Manual and other documents relevant from time to time governing the operation of OKDIA.
- 4.6 A Register of Members of OKDIA shall be kept to maintain a current record of membership.
- 4.7 'The Class' shall mean the class of sailing dinghies designed by Knud Olsen and made in accordance with his drawings and specifications now held by World Sailing and known under the name 'International OK Dinghy Class'.
- 4.8 'The Class Rules' shall mean the current version of the OK Dinghy Class Rules as published by World Sailing and relating to the measurement and construction rules of the Class.
- 4.9 'The Class Register' shall mean the Register of International OK Dinghies and their owners to be kept by each National Association and/or each National Authority.
- 4.10 'The Registered Sail Number' shall mean the sail number allocated to each International OK Dinghy.
- 4.11 'The Class Secretary' shall mean the duly elected Secretary of OKDIA.
- 4.12 **A 'valid Measurement Certificate' shall mean a certificate issued, ratified and endorsed as described in the Class Rules.**
- 4.13 'The Owner' shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association entered on the Measurement Certificate as Owner or joint Owner of an International OK Dinghy.

Acceptance of a Measurement Certificate by an Owner shall render them subject to the jurisdiction of OKDIA in any matter pertaining to the Class Rules.

- 4.14 'The Copyright Holder' shall mean the person or persons or corporation or association for the time being in possession of the copyright on the drawings and specifications of the International OK Dinghy.
- 4.15 'In writing' shall mean a written notice sent either by post or email or both.
- 4.16 A 'Postal Ballot' shall mean a ballot conducted via email, or electronically. Replies shall be returned to the Class Secretary by email, or electronically, within 3 weeks of the date of publishing the ballot paper.

SECTION 2 - OFFICER BEARERS

5 Office Bearers and their Duties

- 5.1 The Office Bearers of OKDIA, shall be the President, the Class Secretary, and the Treasurer.
- a) The President shall chair all meetings of OKDIA and represent OKDIA as required. The President will oversee all functions of OKDIA and along with the other Office Bearers shall conduct the business of OKDIA, including the approval of all payments and receipts.
 - b) The Class Secretary shall keep all records of OKDIA and shall be responsible for communicating all decisions of the Committee to the Members of OKDIA and where directed by the Committee, to owners not being members of a National Association in such terms as the Committee may prescribe. The Class Secretary shall be responsible for any interpretation of the Association Rules for the conduct and functioning of OKDIA, as well as running the bank accounts and making financial disbursements as the Committee directs.
 - c) The Treasurer shall have oversight of the funds of OKDIA, cause such books of account to be kept as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of finances of the OKDIA, and prepare an annual balance sheet as at the 1st January in each year and cause such balance sheet (and accounts as are necessary) to be audited at least once annually.
- 5.2 The Hon Auditor, who is not an office bearer, shall be appointed at an AGM in each year and shall certify the annual balance sheet and if unable to or unwilling to act shall inform the Committee who shall appoint a substitute to hold office until the termination of the next AGM.

SECTION 3 - MEMBERSHIP

6 Membership

- 6.1 OKDIA shall consist of National OK Dinghy Class Associations approved by the Committee and who have been elected to membership.
- 6.2 Candidates for membership shall apply in writing to the Class Secretary. Candidates may be approved by the Committee, and then this decision shall be ratified at a General Meeting. Members will be entitled to send a nominated representative to General Meetings who are entitled to vote.
- 6.3 Members that wish to leave OKDIA shall do so in writing to the President.
- 6.4 A National Association unable to send a representative to a General Meeting may authorise in writing the Secretary of OKDIA to vote on its behalf and in the manner that it directs. Such authorisation shall be presented in writing at the Annual General Meeting.

- 6.5 Only owners who are members of a National Association may participate in international events, propose candidates for election to the OKDIA Committee and obtain a full newsletter service and annual stickers.
- 6.6 The membership fee (subscription) shall be proposed by the Committee to the Members at an AGM in each year. The subscription rate for each member will be determined based on a census and annual enquiry as to the number of National Association owners of the Member. **Subscription rates will be determined by the actual number of owners with a minimum membership of 1 owner. National Associations with 2 or less owners will be required to pay the minimum fee based on 2 owners.**
- 6.7 Any changes to the membership fee shall be approved by a majority vote and shall become operative on the 1st day of January in the year following and shall be paid by 31st March of that current year. If not paid in time the privileges and benefits of membership may be lost. All Members shall be notified of the current rates of subscription each year.

SECTION 4 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

7 The Committee

- 7.1 The Committee shall consist of at least 4 and not more than **10** representatives including the Office Bearers and shall consist of the President, the Class Secretary, the Treasurer, three Vice Presidents, the Chair of the Rules and Technical Sub-Committee and up to 3 other members.
- 7.2 There shall be three Vice Presidents with **at least one from the Northern Hemisphere and at least one from the Southern Hemisphere.**
- a) **Vice President Sailing and Events – Responsible for oversight in conjunction with the Class Secretary for all race management matters for international events conducted in conjunction with OKDIA, the international events calendar, venues for Major Championships, approval of race documents. The role of Vice President Sailing and Events expresses the voice of the sailors and competitors in conducting and enjoying international OK Dinghy sailing events and in doing so works closely with the Class Secretary who holds the responsibility for organising and managing international events and race management matters.**
- b) **Vice President Class Development – Responsible for oversight in conjunction with the Class Secretary for developing and working with new OK Dinghy Fleets and or existing fleets experiencing a re-emergence after a period of decline. This may include liaison with access to expertise, equipment, coaching and working with new and emerging fleets and sailors to develop the capacity and capability of the Class and sailors in a particular country or region.**
- c) **Vice President Marketing and Publicity – Responsible for oversight in conjunction with the Class Secretary for the promotion of the Class by creating interest through information of the benefits of the OK Dinghy as a sailing dinghy and OKDIA as a class association through the use of a variety of methods and media including boat shows, demonstration events, use of traditional, online and social media streams. The aim of the role is to assist the Class to increase information available to current and potential OK Dinghy owners, sailors and supporters.**
- 7.3 **The Chair of the Rules and Technical Sub-committee shall be appointed by the Committee and confirmed at the AGM and shall be responsible for the running of the Sub-Committee and maintaining the Class Rules, and, unless otherwise decided by the Committee, shall be the Class Representative delegated to correspond with World Sailing regarding technical matters. The Rules and Technical Sub-Committee shall be responsible for advising the Committee and OKDIA members upon the interpretations, proposed amendments or additions to the Class Rules and for making recommendations to the Committee.**
- 7.4 **The Committee shall appoint a website manager who shall be responsible for all work and updating of the official OKDIA Class websites**

7.5 **The Office Bearers and the Vice-Presidents** shall be elected every two years at a General Meeting of Members, or by Postal Ballot, and as elected members shall hold office until the conclusion of the appropriate AGM. The retiring officers and representatives shall be eligible for re-election. No National Association shall have more than 3 representatives at any one time serving on the Committee. For this purpose the Chairman of the Rules and Technical Sub-Committee shall be deemed not to represent any one member of OKDIA.

7.6 Up to 3 ordinary Committee positions can be filled by nomination and election at an AGM and when so elected will hold office for two years and hold office until the conclusion of the AGM towards the end of the two year term. If vacant, these positions may also be filled by Committee appointment, and confirmed by the following AGM.

8 Powers of the Committee

8.1 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than 3 representatives to fill casual vacancies. The Committee need not fill a vacancy arising in the Committee unless the total number of Committee members has dropped below the minimum of 4. Co-opted members shall hold office only until such time when the subsequent and next AGM takes place.

8.2 Subject to the provision of these rules, and in particular to the objects of OKDIA, the Committee shall be empowered to perform all functions of management **and administration, including the provision of stipend payments and honorariums.**

8.3 The Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the Members in General Meeting **or by Postal Ballot** for alterations in or additions to the Association Rules, and the Class Rules.

8.4 The Committee shall arrange an annual World Championship of the Class and the Class Secretary shall co-ordinate such National and Regional Championships as may be required and all matters pertaining to International Championships shall be settled by the Committee in consultation with the sponsoring clubs or club and/or the relevant National Authority.

9 Meetings of the Committee

9.1 Business shall be mainly conducted by correspondence through the Class Secretary. All communications shall be sent by email. Any Committee member not answering a motion communicated in writing within three weeks, of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to the motion.

9.2 If a meeting is to be held then the Class Secretary shall give at least 2 weeks notice of the date, place and time, including the agenda, by email to each Committee Member. Agreement shall normally be by consensus, but if not, simple majority shall rule, or the matter shall be referred to the AGM. At meetings of the Committee 4 of the elected members shall form a quorum.

SECTION 5 - MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

10 Business at an AGM

10.1 The AGM of OKDIA shall elect a President, Class Secretary, Treasurer, three Vice Presidents, including at least one from the Northern Hemisphere and at least one from the Southern Hemisphere, and up to 3 other members to form the Committee. It will appoint the Chair of the Rules and Technical Sub-Committee and approve members to the Sub-Committee. It shall also appoint the Auditor.

11 General Meetings

11.1 The Annual General Meeting of OKDIA shall be held each year at the World Championship. In case there is no World Championship, the AGM shall be held at the time of the European Championship. In the event of neither a World or a European Championship in a year, the Committee shall call an AGM at a place considered convenient to the majority of members,

the precise date, time and place being at the Committee's discretion. **If a physical AGM is not possible then an online AGM may be arranged.**

- 11.2 Notice of any General Meeting, including agendas and supporting papers, shall be sent to Members by email at least 8 weeks before the meeting.
- 11.3 Written responses and Postal Ballots from National Associations must be received at the latest by the beginning of the General Meeting.
- 11.4 **Voting shall be proportional based on the size of the National Associations present.**

	Membership numbers	Number of votes
Group A	1-10	1
Group B	11 – 50	2
Group C	51-150	3
Group D	More than 150	4

- 11.5 Voting shall be by a simple majority of the votes counted of the National Associations except for those decisions concerned with the either the Association Rules or the Class Rules. A decision to change the Association Rules or a decision to recommend to World Sailing a change in or addition to the Class Rules shall require a majority of two-thirds.
- 11.6 At any meeting the President, or Chairman, in the absence of the President, shall have a casting vote.
- 11.7 In the event the Committee decides to obtain a decision of members outside a General Meeting, the Committee can request a decision of members by Postal Ballot. The Committee may also decide to defer all Class Rule changes to a Postal Ballot not more than 6 months after the AGM. In the event of a Postal Ballot, all ballot papers and supporting material will be sent by the Class Secretary and all returns shall be made to the Class Secretary.
- 11.8. At any General Meeting of OKDIA, **5 Group B, C or D Members** shall be present to form a quorum.

12 Submissions

- 12.1 Submissions for amendments to the Association Rules or Class Rules shall only be made by the Committee or Members.
- 12.2 All Class Rule submissions shall be submitted to the Chair of the Technical Committee at least **12 weeks** before the General Meeting Agenda.
 - a) The Technical Committee may modify the proposal where needed and shall vote on whether to recommend the proposal to the General Meeting.
 - b) If the Technical Committee votes against the proposal it may still be submitted to the General Meeting with a 'not recommended' note.

13 Election of officers

- 13.1 Nominations for available positions shall be sent to the Secretary at least 4 weeks before the AGM.

14 Special General Meetings

- 14.1 A Special General Meeting may be called by the President or Class Secretary upon receipt by the Class Secretary of a request in writing from not fewer than four Members **in Groups B, C or D**. The rules governing the calling and conduct for such meetings shall be as for a General Meeting except for the time and place.

ADDENDA

A International Championship Races

Except as otherwise provided by these by-laws the conduct of the International Championships shall follow the current World Sailing *Racing Rules of Sailing* and the *OKDIA Major Championship Event Manual*.

B Subscriptions

The annual subscription for Members shall be as agreed at a preceding General Meeting of the Association. A Member can change its level of membership and therefore subscription rate from year to year by answering the annual query form.

C Hall of Fame

Nominations to the Hall of Fame may be submitted to the OKDIA Committee by the Secretary of a National Association or a member of the OKDIA Committee. A short report justifying the nomination shall be submitted with the name. A Hall of Fame plaque will be presented to the successful nominee. The final decision on successful entry to the OK Dinghy Hall of Fame will lie with the current OKDIA Committee.