

## OKDIA AGM - June 2026 President's Report

Welcome to the 2026 Annual General meeting for the OKDIA and warm welcome to the upcoming 2026 Worlds in Denmark. It is great to return to Denmark and race for the Worlds Championship on classic OK waters. The origin of the OK dingy is Danish and it is believed that Ole Knudsen made the drawings of the dinghy in 1956 and the first boats were built during the winter and sailed for the first time in 1957. Either way we argue the beginning of the OK dinghy and the start of the class, it is great to be back in Denmark.

The class has seen a tremendous growth since the end of the Covid lockdown, and we crowned 2025 with 212 sailors on Lake Garda battling it out in three fleets for the World Championships. It was not only great racing but a nice social event where sailors from 15 countries met. Old friends met and reconnected while new friendships were made.

We also had the great pleasure of racing for the European Championships in Warnemünde, where the German association lead by Andreas Piech put on a great event with the local organiser.

2025 was also the year when the financials of OKDIA returned a healthier level. It took a long time to recover from the two years of no international events in 2020 and 2021. This was largely made possible by the high level of participation in the Worlds and Europeans and a healthy growth of new boats driving the sale of boat, mast and sail labels.

The growth of the class continues with many fleets welcoming new members who are introduced to the class. The width and depth of the class is impressive and wherever you travel there is always an event to take part in and a fellow OK sailor to meet up with. In addition to the long end exciting season, the OKDIA Committee have worked on several topics to develop the OK class and secure a healthy growth:

- The technical committee has worked with Worlds Sailing to develop and update our class rules. There has been made technical clarifications and there is a clear framework on how a personal sail number is allocated and what MNA a sailor represent.
- The AGM was held at the Worlds at Lake Garda where a new leadership was elected.
- The new 2024 – 2030 roadmap is launched and sets the direction for the class
- The international calendar is progressing and the class will Return to Thailand for the 2027 Worlds and later the same year the Europeans will be sailed on the water outside Råå in Sweden.

I'm looking forward to the 2026 season, an exciting race calendar, meeting new and old OK sailors and taking part in professional and competitive events.

Pontus Gäbel, President  
OKDIA, March 2026