

Secretary's Report AGM 2026

Following the largest event in the classes' history on Lake Garda in 2025, we are heading into what is likely to be the second largest in Denmark in 2026. It seems the world has got the OK Dinghy sailing bug and is turning up in ever greater numbers.

But this growth also brings challenges trying to manage the membership and deliver services that meet at the varying needs of all the members. To that end we changed the membership structure slightly at the 2025 AGM to introduce individual members for the first time. The model of having a National Class Association does not work in all cases, and when we have 6-7 sailors as sole representatives from their country, perhaps a tweak was required. We will see how this will work out in the coming years.

To that end we now have NCAs in 18 countries, plus individual sailors in another six or seven. Total 2025 OKDIA membership was 986.

Financially, OKDIA was struggling early in 2025, still recovering from the pandemic years of lost events, and some high expenditure, hence the proposals at the 2025 AGM. This is never an exact science as much of our income is dependent on sales of equipment labels and entries at events, so we erred on the side of safety in order to build a buffer for the future. The plan was to have one year's turnover in reserve, and we have almost achieved that. The huge entry for Denmark, and the expected high entry for the Europeans should leave OKDIA in a comfortable position so that no more increases will be needed in the short term. That said, sales of boats plaques, and mast and sail labels were down in 2025, though still healthy.

We remain fortunate in having a lot of interest for events for the coming years and look forward to Pattaya and Råå in 2027. Again, big numbers are expected at both. Then in 2028 the prospect of the worlds in Bandol is very exciting. Will there be enough Rosé for more than 200 OK Dinghy sailors?

The Roadmap II we presented last year continues to guide the direction of OKDIA and while we have a clear focus on the future, the committee always remains open to feedback and new blood, as well as new ideas to develop and grow the class and provide great events for the membership.

In the backroom, work on technical issues, the Class Rules, correspondence and event preparation largely continues unnoticed by many, and there are many hours and much unsung work carried out behind the scenes by NCAs, our OAs and of course the Committee Members. So, thanks to everyone who puts their time into the class to make it so much fun for everyone else.

Robert Deaves
OKDIA Secretary
May 2026