

2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF OKDIA

Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting of OKDIA
Held at Barbados Yacht Club, Barbados on Monday, 29 May at 16.45

Attendees: Bo Teglers (President), Mike Wilde (VP –Southern Hemisphere), Peter Robinson (Third VP), Robert Deaves (Secretary), Alistair Deaves (Chairman of the Technical Committee, representatives of AUS, DEN, FRA, GER, GBR, NZL, POL and SWE, and about 50 sailors

1. Apologies

No apologies were received.

2. Approval of 2016 Minutes

The minutes of the 2016 AGM in Quiberon, France, previously circulated, were approved without amendment.

3. Reports and Accounts

President's report: Welcome to the AGM

This will be my last report as President, I have had an 4 exciting years in the committee. It has been a pleasure to be part of a committee that has been dedicated at moving this class forward.

In the committee we have managed to move to class forward in a number of areas some these I will mention here;

- We have strengthened the economy of OKDIA, the subscription per sailor had traditionally always been very low. This has enabled us to be able to function better as a class.
- We managed to have worlds in another exotic venue as we are all here in Barbados.
- We opened up the worlds with a free entry. This was close to my heart as I wanted people to be able to plan their participation in good time. Also as an amateur class we are essentially there to encourage people to sail.
- We now have a strengthened International calendar. We moved forward with a new 4 days concept for the Europeans, which seemed to have been well received. There was some concern that it could take away boats from the worlds, but so far this has not been the case.
- Measurement at the worlds events have been simplified and rationalised.

There are certainly more areas where we can do improvement, which is why it is important to bring in new persons with new fresh ideas.

I was especially proud of being an OK sailor after seeing how the class came together to help the Australian sailors at the worlds last year, after their boat container got delayed. This of this shows the camaraderie of this class.

Secretary's report: Membership is stable at 762. While many fleets are continuing to grow, a few have downsized, which means the total is more or less the same. We hoped there would be growth in North America with new boats being built and a new secretary, but it has been quiet since the start of the year.

Last month I visited Bandol on the Mediterranean to witness the growing fleet of OKs. They are very keen to run the Europeans next year in Late September or early October.

The idea of a Euro circuit is still being explored, but the extra work involved in the past year has meant we have not made much progress. It will remain a goal for 2018.

Following AGM direction last year we sought bids from Garda for either 2019 or 2021. I would recommend that we choose one of the options at the moment. People have mixed feelings about Garda, but I think it a venue that everyone wants to go to at least once.

The accounts show that we are very healthy financially. We have invested in new branding for this year, a new magazine, new events websites, new rules, self-checking and event stickers and we will

continue to invest to promote the class. There are no comments of recommendations from the Treasurer.

I had hoped the accounts for the Barbados entry fees would be done by now, but not only I have been rather busy, but various elements were also changing, so this will all be reconciled as soon as possible after the event.

Finally thanks to Darek Kras who is retiring after 13 years enthusiastic and committed service on the OKDIA Committee, to Bo as retiring President and welcome to the new faces (and old) we are about to elect.

Report from the Chairman of the Technical Committee:

a) New Class Rules

The conversion of the current rules into the World Sailing Standard Class Rules (SCR) format using the Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) was finally completed in early May 2017. This will come into effect after these World Championships on June 1st 2017. It has been mentioned before but it is very fitting that in the 60th year of the class we have upgraded our rules to a format that will hopefully see us well into the future. It has been an enormous task and very time consuming. To go into all the technical details in this report would not be very practical, however, the task now is for all builders and measurers to use the new rules and test their robustness and consistency.

The work could not have been done without the help of many people. The full list is very long and includes many people from both the OKDIA Executive and Technical Committees and many others around the world both inside and outside the class, but I would like to make special mention to our hardworking World Sailing technical expert Javier Blanco, to Finn Gheury who drew the new measurement diagrams, to Dave Chivers and Richard Hart who worked on the first drafts with us, and to Andre Blasse who helped in the final few frantic weeks and also completed the new Measurement Form.

b) Boats Database

Once again the boats database has taken a back seat while the new rules were worked on. Hopefully now there will be more time to get this up and running and streamline it with the responsibilities of the NCAs to send OKDIA details of all new boats.

c) Future work

a. We have long discussed publishing a list of standard numbers for building. We have had a lot of new builders since the last questionnaire so they need to be included before any results can be published.

b. Along with the job above there has been some interest in having a fixed mast length. This would make everyone's job easier so I will undertake some research into opinion and practicality of this.

4. Accounts

In the absence of the Treasurer, Mike Wilde summarised the accounts. He reported that the OKDIA accounts are in a very healthy state and this will allow the committee to continue to develop its services without budget concerns. The accounts are slightly distorted in that the New Zealand account also includes all the NZL Worlds entry fees. He suggested that OKDIA began to use online accounting for invoicing and payment reconciliation to not only make the financial management of OKDIA easier, but also to add more transparency to the association's transactions. He said this would be a fundamental role of the new Treasurer.

The acceptance of the accounts were proposed by Mike Wilde and seconded by Brent Williams, AUS. Carried unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

5.1 President: Mark Jackson, AUS

Vice President, Northern Hemisphere Jonas Borjesson, SWE

Webmaster: Peter Scheuerl, GER

Treasurer: No nominations were received by the deadline of April 3 so the Committee nominated Nick Crag, GBR

All nominations were voted for en-masse. Proposed Robert Deaves, Seconded Alistair Deaves. Carried unanimously.

5.2 Technical committee. Mark Roberts, AUS, has left the Technical Committee.

6. Appointment of an auditor

Mark Perrow, NZL, was appointed.

7. Class Rule change proposals

7.1 Event Manual Rule 19

The proposed wording was modified from the floor to read:

19. Minimum/maximum wind strength

19.1 Racing shall not be started when the wind strength, measured at not more than 3 metres above sea level, is predominantly less than 2 m/s or exceeds 14 m/s.

19.2 Racing shall be abandoned if the wind drops below 2 m/s for more than 5 minutes.

19.3 The decision to start or abandon racing will be at the discretion of the race committee.

Carried unanimously.

9. Future venues

9.1 The Secretary outlined OKDIA's strategy towards future events. OKDIA had a proposal from Arco Sailing Club on Lake Garda to host the 2019 European Championships and/or the 2021 World Championship. He stated the 2021 option was preferred only if there was support from NZL and AUS. It was felt that if the 2019 option was chosen, it would detract from the Worlds in New Zealand. OKDIA's recommendation was therefore to vote for the 2021 Worlds at Arco, and then OKDIA would seek to ask Kiel Week to run the 2019 Europeans.

This was carried: 7 votes for, GBR abstained.

The AGM was closed at 17.40.

Open forum

1. Update on progress and planning for 2017 Europeans – Denmark

2. Update on progress and planning for 2018 World Championship – Warnemunde

3. Update on progress and planning for 2019 World Championship – Wakatere

4. Proposed by Poland, a discussion ensued on how to enforce National OK association membership through Class Rules? However, the Class Rules already adequately cover this; it is down to National associations and event organisers to enforce these rules.

5. In the absence of any bids for the 2018 European Championship, the committee nominated Bandol, France. Bandol has a growing OK Dinghy fleet and is very keen to host the event. Dates to be Late September/Early October. Dates will be agreed and Notice of Race published as soon as possible. A general vote among competitors showed the meeting was in favour of this proposal.

6. GBR expressed a strong interest to organise the 2022 World Championship at a club in the south-west of the UK. They will come to the 2018 AGM with a firm proposal.