

OKDIA Constitution

Explanation of proposed changes October 2018

Background

The current OKDIA Constitution was drafted by Don Andrews, the Chairman of the Technical Committee in 1985. The Constitution provides the rules governing the management of the affairs of the OKDIA as an unincorporated association of member national associations and in turn their respective members who are owners and sailors of the International OK Dinghy Class. The current version of the Constitution includes changes agreed to at the AGM in Puck Poland in 2015. Further changes were approved at subsequent AGM's and are now included in the updated draft.

The Committee of OKDIA have reviewed the need for incorporating the association of OKDIA and at this stage have decided this is not needed. On investigation, the process of incorporating the association would be quite complex and for little or no return to members.

The proposed changes seek to;

- Fix anomalies and inconsistencies in the current Constitution
- Update terms and definitions since the last update.
- Simplify areas of confusion.
- Incorporate changes agreed as part of the implementation of the Strategic Road Map.
- Reduce the threshold for members and remove the category of associate member to encourage new member countries to join and participate in international events.

The following changes are proposed;

SECTION 1 – Name and Objects

- 3 – Objects – include new words “promote and manage” before the existing word “maintain”. Reason: To include the words promoting and managing the class in the objects statement. These words are already including elsewhere in the objects, so this is just for clarity and does not change the objects of the association.
- 3 – Objects – Change references to “ISAF” with “World Sailing”.
- 4 – Terms and Definitions – a) Include new definition for “The Association”, being OKDIA. Reason: Not previously defined.
- 4 – Terms and Definitions – c) Change “ISAF” to “World Sailing”
- 4 – Terms and Definitions – e) Clarify which documents ‘Association Rules’ include. Reason: Remove previous confusion. Note: this has also been changed throughout the document to clarify the difference between Association Rules and Class Rules. Where it said ‘Constitution’ before, it now says ‘Association Rules’.
- 4 – Terms and Definitions – g) and h) Change “ISAF” to “World Sailing”
- 4 – Terms and Definitions – l) Change definition of “measurement certificate to include sub clause m) “Valid Measurement Certificate”. This is now a combined clause l) “Valid Measurement Certificate” in the proposal. Reason: Remove the distinction between a “Measurement Certificate” and a “Valid Measurement Certificate” to avoid confusion.

SECTION 2 – Officers

- Nil Changes

SECTION 3 – Membership

- 7 – Categories of Membership – This clause is renamed Membership and the categories of (i) Full Membership and (ii) Associate Membership are removed.
- 7 – Categories of Membership – Clause regarding poll voting retained as current.
- 7 – Categories of Membership – “Postal Voting” words removed as they were misleading.
- 7 – Categories of Membership – Change in wording regarding participation in international events to now include the words, “Only owners who are members of a National Association which is a financial member of OKDIA can participate in international events ...”. Reason to clarify the meaning of the clause.
- 8 – Membership Fees – Clause removed and the wording included in the new clause 7 Membership. Include 2 new paragraphs to provide clarity regarding fees and to set the minimum membership at 5 owners and minimum payment of fees for 5 owners. Reason: decrease barriers to entry of new members and sailors from new countries wanting to join OKDIA, consistent with the objectives of the Strategic Road Map.

SECTION 4 – Management Committee

- 9 – The Committee – Now renumbered clause 8. New clause also includes words in the first sentence, “and shall consist of President, Class Secretary, Treasurer, three Vice Presidents, including at least one from the Northern Hemisphere and one from the Southern Hemisphere, and up to 3 other members to form the Committee”. Reason: For clarity consistent with the words in the AGM Clause.
- 9 – The Committee – increase maximum number from each member association from 2 to 3. Reason: for consistency with the introduction of the 3rd Vice President in 2017.
- 10 – Powers of the Committee – Now renumbered as clause 9. In clause 9 c) “Association Rules” changed to “Constitution” and simplified to reflect that all correspondence is via email. Reason: Consistent removal of postal and other non electronic means and universal use of email for business.
- 11 – Meetings of the Committee – removal of words, ‘by Air Mail’ and Postal Ballot for Committee meetings and apply consistent use of email. Reason: to bring the wording up to date with standard practice. Notice time changed from 6 weeks to 2 weeks to reflect modern practice.

SECTION 5 – Meetings of the Association

- 12 – Annual General Meetings – Now numbered Clause 11. Sub clause d) amended for consistency with Clause 7 membership regarding poll voting and reduction in membership minimum to 5 owners. Reason: to remove a previous anomaly and apply consistency to the document.
- 12 – Annual General Meetings –Sub clause e) change ISAF to World Sailing. Include the clarification that changes to the Constitution and the Class Rules require a two thirds majority.
- 12 – Annual General Meetings – Sub clause g) amended to clarify the process around “Postal Voting” to be only by email and the time to rely is 3 weeks. Reason: remove voting by post and only conduct by email.

- 13 – Business at an AGM – Remove the role of the Technical Committee regarding advising and interpreting the Constitution. Reason: This is the role of the Class Secretary as an adviser to the Officers and the Committee.

Recommendation

That the proposed amendment and alterations to the Constitution be approved.