

# The Constitution of the OK Dinghy International Association

## SECTION 1

### Name 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 on the sail plan for the Class.

- 3 Objects      The objects of the Association shall be:

To maintain the one design character of the International OK Dinghy by collaborating with ISAF and National Authorities in the allotment and issue of Building Fee Receipts, serial sail numbers and measurement certificates, and in the keeping of Class Registers by National OK Class Associations.

To promote international racing in the Class.

To ensure the development of the Class in all countries.

To co-ordinate and manage the affairs and the rules of the Class.

To make recommendations on the control of such matters to ISAF.

To serve the interests of 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 will be used:

- a) ‘OKDIA’ shall mean the OK Dinghy International Association.
- b) A ‘National Association’ shall mean the International OK Class National Association organised in individual countries and officially recognised by the Association and normally by the relevant National Authority.
- c) ‘The National Authority’ shall mean the ISAF recognised authority or organisation controlling and organising the sport of yachting and sailing on a national basis in any country.
- d) ‘The Committee’ shall mean the Committee of OKDIA consisting of duly elected office bearers and other representatives who are members of a National Association.

- e) 'The Association Rules' shall mean the rules governing the conduct of OKDIA.
- f) 'The Association Register' shall mean the Register of Members of OKDIA to be kept as hereinafter provided.
- g) '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 the International Sailing Federation Ltd and known under the name 'International OK Dinghy Class.'
- h) 'The Class Rules' shall mean the current version of the Class Rules produced by the International Sailing Federation Ltd relating to measurement and construction (and racing conditions forming an appendix to the Association Rules) governing the official building of each International OK Dinghy and its rating as a recognised boat within the Class (for Class racing purposes).
- i) '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.
- j) 'The Registered Sail Number' shall mean the sail number allocated to each International OK Dinghy.
- k) 'The Class Secretary' shall mean the duly elected Secretary of OKDIA.
- l) 'Measurement Certificate' shall mean a certificate to be issued, ratified and endorsed as hereinafter provided and recording:
  - (i) The sail number and ownership of an International OK Dinghy.
  - (ii) The fact that such International OK Dinghy originally complies with the Class Rules on completion of measurement, together with such particulars as may be required by the Class Rules.
- m) 'Valid Certificate' shall mean a Measurement Certificate in which:
  - (i) the particulars of ownership are up to date and entered on the Class Register.
  - (ii) any endorsement required by the Class Rules has been duly entered.
- n) 'Owner' or 'Joint Owner' shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association entered on the certificate as owner or joint owner of an International OK Dinghy. Acceptance of a certificate by an Owner or Joint Owner shall ipso facto render him, her or them subject to the jurisdiction of OKDIA or the Committee in any matter pertaining to the Class Rules.

- o) ‘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.

## **SECTION 2                  Officers**

5        The Office Bearers of the Association shall be the President, Class Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected every two years at a General Meeting of the Association.

6        The duties of the Office Bearers

The President shall give approval of all payments and receipts of monies in excess of £500 or its equivalent.

The Class Secretary shall keep all records of OKDIA and be responsible for communicating all decisions of the Committee to members of OKDIA and where directed by the Committee, to owners and joint owners not being members of a National Association in such terms as the Committee may prescribe.

The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of OKDIA, make such disbursements as the Committee shall direct, 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. Authority to make payments and receipt of monies shall be validly evidenced only by the signature of the Treasurer or his or her deputy as appointed by the Committee.

The Hon Auditor, who is not an office bearer, shall be appointed at an AGM in each year who shall certify the annual balance sheet and if unable or unwilling to act inform the Committee who shall appoint a substitute to hold office until the termination of the next AGM.

## **SECTION 3                  Membership**

7        Categories of Membership

The Association shall consist of National OK Dinghy Class Associations whose constitutions have been approved by the Committee and who have been elected to membership.

i        Full Membership

Candidates for full membership shall apply in writing to the Class Secretary for election which will take place at an ensuing AGM. Full members will be entitled to

send a nominated representative to AGMs who is entitled to vote and, in the case of a poll vote, exercise either 1 vote for up to 30 paying members, 2 votes for 31 to 100 paying members, and 3 votes for over 100 paying members of their national association.

Postal voting: 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 which it directs. Such authorisation must be presented in writing at the Annual General Meeting.

Full members can participate in international events, propose candidates for election to the OKDIA Committee and obtain a full newsletter service and annual stickers.

## ii Associate Membership

Candidates for associate membership with fewer than 30 paying members of their national association shall apply in writing to the Class Secretary of OKDIA for election which will take place at an ensuing AGM. Associate members can attend AGMs and can contribute to the discussion but they have no vote, nor can they make proposals or be elected to the OKDIA Committee. They cannot participate in international events but are entitled to a full newsletter service and annual stickers.

## 8 Membership Fees

The membership fee (subscription) for each category of membership shall be proposed by the Committee to the Members at an AGM in each year. Any changes shall be approved by a majority vote and it shall become operative on the 1st day of January in the year following and must 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 will be notified of the current rates of subscription each year.

## **SECTION 4 Management Committee**

### 9 The Committee

The Committee shall consist of not more than 9 representatives including the office bearers. They shall be elected every two years at an AGM of members or by postal vote and as elected members to 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 2 representatives at any one time serving on the Committee. The Chairman of the Rules and Technical Sub-Committee shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee and will be deemed not to represent any one member of the Association.

### 10 Powers of the Committee

- a) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than 2 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.
- b) Subject to the provision of these rules and in particular to the objects of the Association the Committee shall be empowered to perform all functions of management and administration.
- c) The Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the Members in General Meeting or by post for alterations in or additions to the Association Rules.
- d) 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.

## 11 Meetings of the Committee

Business will mainly be conducted by correspondence through the Class Secretary. All communications to countries outside that of the Secretariat shall be sent by airmail. Any Committee member not answering a motion communicated to him or her in writing within three weeks of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to the motion.

In the event of a postal ballot, all returns shall be made to the Secretariat within six weeks of the posting of the ballot paper.

If a meeting is to be held then the Class Secretary will give at least 6 weeks notice of the date, place and time, including the agenda, in writing to each Committee Member. Agreement will normally be by consensus, but if not, simple majority will rule, or the matter will 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**

### 12 Annual General Meetings

- a) The Annual General Meeting of OKDIA shall be held each year at the World Championship/European Championship. In case there is no World/European Championship 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.

- b) At least 8 weeks notice in writing of any general meeting including agendas and supporting papers shall be given to members.
- c) Written responses and postal votes from National Associations must be received at the latest by the beginning of the AGM.
- d) Voting may be by show of hands unless a poll vote is demanded by not fewer than 3 of the nominated representatives of the National Associations present. In the case of a poll vote being taken, the votes will be allocated in accordance with the entitlement allocated to full members.
- e) Voting will be by a simple majority of the nominated representatives of the National Associations except for those decisions concerned with the class rules. A decision to recommend to ISAF a change in or addition to the class rules shall require a majority of two-thirds.
- f) At any meeting the President, or Chairman in the absence of the President, shall have a casting vote.
- g) In the event of a postal ballot, all returns shall be made to the Secretariat within 6 weeks of the date of posting the ballot paper.
- h) At any AGM of OKDIA 5 Full Members present shall form a quorum.

### 13 Business at an AGM

The AGM of OKDIA shall elect a President, Class Secretary, Treasurer, two Vice Presidents one from the Northern Hemisphere and one from the Southern Hemisphere, and up to 4 other members to form the Committee. It will appoint an auditor and elect a rules and technical sub-committee which will be responsible for advising the Committee and OKDIA members upon the interpretation of the Association Rules, for considering requirements for amendments or additions to such rules or to the Class Rules and for making recommendations to the Committee.

### 14 Special General Meetings

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 full members. The rules governing the calling and conduct for such meetings shall be as for the AGM 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 ISAF *Racing Rules of Sailing*.

- 1 (a) The Class Secretary will invite Member Associations to send their applications for entries six months before the event is held.
- (b) The World and European Championships will take place at a venue to be decided upon by the AGM of OKDIA.
- (c) The number of boats taking part shall not exceed 80, not including last year's World Champion, who shall have the right to defend the title. This place does not count to the quota of the relevant National Association.
- (d) The Committee of OKDIA will determine the number of boats that may be entered by National Associations for World and European Championships. Applications for places will be determined in relation to the number of registered boats whose owners are members of their respective National Association. Every National Association must pay its annual subscription to OKDIA before the 1st March. They will lose 25% of their quota in all International Championships if they do not pay before 15th March in any one year. If the subscription is not paid before the 1st April they will lose all their places. Member Associations will inform the Class Secretary at least 3 months before the event if they do not intend to take their full allocation. The re-allocation of these places will be at the discretion of the OKDIA Committee. If countries do not pick up their allocated places and have not informed OKDIA at least 3 months before the event, they may have to pay the entry fee either to the organising club, organising National Association, or to OKDIA.
- (e) Entries can be made only through National Associations that are full members of OKDIA.
- (f) The organising country of a World Championship must appoint an International Jury. European Championships will be held under the same constitution as a World Championship but an International jury may be omitted.

### **Racing Rules**

- 2(a) The series will be scored as provided in Appendix A of the *Racing Rules of Sailing* using the Low Point System modified so that each boat's score will be the total of her race scores, with her worst score discarded if 5 or more races

have been completed. Seven races are scheduled, of which 5 races shall be completed to constitute a series.

- 2(b) Every attempt should be made to sail ten races for a series. Three races can be scheduled on each of two days.
- 2c The course shall be a triangle, a sausage and a beat with angles of  $45^0$ ,  $90^0$  and  $45^0$ , start and finish about 200m from the marks. The length of the course shall be such that the race takes approximately 70 minutes for the leading boat to complete the course. The course is not to be shortened.

(d) Time limits

Start – Mark 1 – Mark 2	= 40 minutes
Start – Mark 1 – mark 2 – mark 3 – mark 1	= 1 hour 20 minutes
Start – finish	= 2 hours

Any boat which has not finished within 20 minutes of the leading boat will be scored DNF.

- (e) The race committee has the option to reduce the length of the windward leg and increase the number of rounds where the course area requires it, under exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the OKDIA committee.
- (f) Racing shall not be started when the wind strength, measured at not more than 3 metres above sea level, exceeds 14 metres per second. Racing will be abandoned at the discretion of the race committee.

(Insert course diagram. RRS Appendix K )  
A Windward-Leeward-Triangle Course

Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – 1 - 3

## B Subscriptions

The annual subscription for Full and Associate Members shall be as agreed at a preceding General Meeting of the Association. A member can change its category of membership from year to year by answering the annual query form.

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