

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Largs Sailing Club, Largs, Scotland on Wednesday 27th July 2011

Present: A Blasse (President), M Reddyhoff (Secretary), D Kras (Vice-President North), A Deaves (Chair Technical Committee)

Representatives from 10 countries: AUS, CAN (proxy), FRA, DEN, GER, GBR, NZL, SWE, USA and some 25 members

Apologies: D Ager (Treasurer), M Wilde (Vice-president South), R Deaves (Marketing)

1. Reports from the Officers

President: He warmly welcomed the 11 countries representing 3 continents at Largs. He suggested the forecasted light winds may have been a factor in the lower than usual entry, however without competitors there would be no event and apathy from one sailor could prevent a container of boats being sent to a destination. He encouraged everyone present to make the effort to attend the 2012 World Championships in Denmark and Thailand in 2013, chosen because it will be a new venue for the International OK.

He congratulated the PRO who was laying on good racing in tricky wind conditions.

He thanked the Chief Measurer and all the members of the OKDIA committee for the work they undertake, especially the Technical committee for their continuing work on measurement and the measurement form.

Secretary:

- There are 786 paid up members of the International Association, with Germany still the largest. The USA and Canadian Associations are increasing fleet sizes, largely due to the interest generated by having one of their number representing them on the European circuit. Although Tim Goodbody has had to sell his OK owing to work commitments, there is increasing interest in forming an Irish Association.
- Fewer building plaques have been purchased this year as National Associations purchased extra prior to the price rise to £40.00.
- More than 10 sets of plans have been purchased during the year from a variety of countries. Kit forms of the boat are also available in Australia and Denmark.
- Two nations were late paying their entry fees to the World Championship. This makes budgeting for the event more difficult.
- Dick Batt will complete his paperwork to become International Measurer of the OK Dinghy class shortly. He will also write a summary of findings that will be published in the next newsletter in the autumn.
- The committee is most grateful to all the countries that have agreed to hold the World and European Championships in the coming years. All of us have at some point organised a major event so fully appreciate how much effort is required by each country to put on such an event. We are now looking for venues for 2016 onwards as Poland has agreed to hold the 2015 Worlds.

Treasurer: in the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary read the report

- OKDIA generated a surplus again this year, largely through the sales revenue generated from the *Completely OK* book; however this revenue stream will decrease in future years once we have all bought the book.
- The sale of building plaques has decreased as fewer boats are being built at present. Also the Secretary purchased more building plaques last year, prior to the VAT rise to 20%.
- Subscription income rose slightly, but the Worlds levy has decreased as fewer competitors are attending the Worlds.
- The Europeans generated a surplus of 650 Euros. It seemed prudent to open a Euro account as some bills have to be paid in Euros.

- Of the expenses, the Secretary's travel to New Zealand fell in the previous year's accounts and she made no claim for the Europeans. Four years of boat stickers were purchased to keep costs as low as possible. Some essential work was also carried out on the jig when it was in New Zealand.
- The balance at 31st December 2010 was £7,500 and €650.
- The auditor reported the presented accounts fairly reflected the financial position of OKDIA on 31st December 2010.

Technical: report given by Terry Curtis

- He thanked the British Association for running the measurement at the 2011 Worlds.
- Resulting from this Measurement process, the Technical Committee will work on the following:
 - (i) A better method of measuring the movement of the mast
 - (ii) Re-define the positioning and fixing of lead correctors
 - (iii) Owners of older boats which had problems in the jig will receive a letter from the Chief Measurer. The owner will be expected to correct the problem.
 - (iv) The builders of new boats which experience problems in the jig will be contacted.
 - (v) Secondary reinforcement is an issue on all sails. The Chief Measurer and the President will discuss this with ISAF
 - (vi) Rooster will be contacted about the window area on their sails.

2. a) To receive nominations and elect the following Officers and members of the Committee:

President: Andre Blasse was re-elected unopposed for a further 2 years

Vice-President: Darek Kras was re-elected unopposed for a further 2 years

Secretary: Mary Reddyhoff was re-elected unopposed for a further 2 years

b) To record changes in the composition of the Technical Committee:

Christian Hedlund (DEN) will join the Technical Committee.

3. Appointment of an auditor

Mark Perrow (NZL) was elected auditor for 2011.

4. Membership subscription

The treasurer advised that subscription rates remain unchanged.

5. OK Class Rule changes for 2011

Replace:

4. REGISTRATION AND MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATE

4.1 No boat is permitted to race in the class unless it has a valid measurement certificate.

4.2 The certificate is only valid for racing if the owner is a current member of a National OK Dinghy Association.

With:

4.SAIL NUMBERS AND MEASUREMENT

4.1 SAIL NUMBERS

4.1 (i) Sail numbers shall be issued by the National Authority.

4.1 (ii) Sail numbers shall be issued in consecutive order starting at 1 for each National Authority. No two boats that are registered in the same country shall have the same sail number.

4.1 (iii) The builder or owner shall apply to the National Authority for a Sail Number enclosing the Building Fee Receipt (BFR). The National Authority shall issue a Sail Number only on receipt of evidence that the BFR has been paid.

4.1 (iv) Where a numbering system used by a National Authority requires any alteration or review, this shall be undertaken with and approval by OKDIA.

4.1 (v) Personal sail numbers may be issued by the National Authority in a sailor's home country, following consultation and approval by OKDIA. Personal sail numbers are additional to the sail numbers issued to all boats. If the use of a personal sail number is likely to cause confusion, a race

committee may require that a boat use the sail number issued under rule 4.1 (i), or another agreed number.

4.2 MEASUREMENT

4.2 (i) No boat is permitted to race in the class unless it has a valid Measurement Certificate.

4.2 (ii) The Certificate is only valid for racing if the owner is a current member of a National OK Dinghy Association.

4.2 (iii) The boat shall be measured by a measurer officially recognised by the NA. The completed Measurement Form shall be supplied to the owner of the boat.

4.2 (iiii) The owner shall send the completed Measurement Form to his NA together with any registration fee that may be required. On receipt of this the NA may issue a Certificate to the owner.

The discussion focused on the following points:

- (i) At the moment a boat with a personal sail number could come to a World Championship with a measurement certificate that does not belong to the boat as the boat hull number / ISAF plaque number is not always recorded on the measurement certificate.
- (ii) There are 3 nations with personal sail numbers.
- (iii) Some National Associations did not want their National Authority to become involved in the running of their association.
- (iv) Should the rule focus on sail number only or should the hull number be recorded also.
- (v) The current rules do not state that sequential numbering should be used.
- (vi) Sequential numbering demonstrates to the world that the OK Dinghy class continues to grow.

For: AUS, CAN, GBR, POL, SWE, USA

Against: DEN, FRA, GER, NOR

The proposal was defeated as a 2/3 majority is required.

6. Any other business

(i) Laminated sails: the members agreed that laminated sails could be used at Club level but not at International events.

(ii) The Danish team did a short presentation on Korsøer, where the 2012 Worlds will be held on 23rd – 28th July. It is an old town, some 100km south of Copenhagen. There is free camping and launching is into a marina. It is a 25 minute sail to the start line where winds should be 10 knot south-westerlies, generating some waves. The Contenders and Europes held their Nationals there in 2010. There will be a family programme eg. visit Legoland. As it is the 50th World Championship the meeting agreed to have an Open Championship, with numbers not restricted to 80 competitors. Knud Olsen's family will be invited to the event.

(iii) The meeting agreed that the 2013 World Championship should be held in Pattaya Thailand; however the dates must coincide with Easter holidays. A short powerpoint of the venue was shown in the Clubroom after the AGM.

(iv) The meeting agreed to hold the 2013 European Championship at Carnac, France. Key information was displayed in the Clubroom after the AGM. The dates are 22nd – 26th July 2013.

(v) The meeting agreed to the German Association's proposal to hold the 2014 European Championship on a large lake, Steinhuder Meer, near Hanover. The lake is shallow, but deep enough for full centreboard. There will be good sponsorship, good hospitality eg. free beer and free camping. Dates will be confirmed shortly.

(vi) The meeting agreed to hold the 2014 World Championship immediately after Christmas. This would mean some of the Championship would run into 2015, but it meant there was sufficient time for people to gather funds after the Thailand Worlds at Easter of 2013. The proposed dates are: Nationals 26 – 28th December, Worlds commencing on 30th December. There will be good sea breezes and the event will be managed by 7 OK sailors, including the current President.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.38pm as the social event had started.
The meeting reconvened at 10.30am on Friday 29th July 2011

AOB continued:

(vii) The meeting agreed unanimously to offer dispensation to the 23 Karsten Kraus built boats whose side-decks being concave do not measure between stations 1 and 2 on condition the sheer-line measurements are provided. Side-deck design may be looked at in the future to improve the ergonomics whilst hiking.

7. The AGM concluded at 11.00am.

Open Forum

- (i) Mark Roberts (AUS) will replace Troels Lykke (DEN) and he will assist in the publicising of the Class.
- (ii) A Masters Trophy will be sailed for by the over 60 year olds at the World Championships. The constitution will be amended to reflect this. Andre and Roger Blasse have generously offered to supply the trophy.