

**OK Dinghy International Association Press Release**  
**2009 OK Dinghy World Championship Kalmar, Sweden**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

**Race 1**

After two general recalls, the race officer, Patrik Schander, used the black flag to get the clear start for the first race of the OK World Championships. Sailing in sunshine and a moderate breeze, the seventy one OKs set off up the 20 minute beat. The majority of the fleet remained on the starboard side of the course with Thomas Hansson-Mild (SWE) and Jorgen Lindhardtzen (DEN) leading at the windward mark. They created a big lead on the following pack, led by Terry Curtis (GBR) and Karl Purdie (NZL). The order remained unchanged to the finish.

Hansson-Mild was delighted to continue his winning ways. He won the last race of the World Championship in Warnemunde in 2008 and now starts the 2009 Championship with a win.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Thomas Hansson-Mild SWE
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jorgen Lindhardtzen DEN
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Terry Curtis GBR
- 4<sup>th</sup> Karl Purdie NZL
- 5<sup>th</sup> Pawel Pawlaczyk POL
- 6<sup>th</sup> Nick Craig GBR
- 7<sup>th</sup> Andre Blasse AUS
- 8<sup>th</sup> Mogens Johansen DEN
- 9<sup>th</sup> Greg Wilcox NZL
- 10<sup>th</sup> Ralf Tietje GER

**Race 2**

Seventy starters lined up for race 2. After a general recall there was a short delay while the wind backed to a more southerly direction. As it settled back to the original direction, the race officer lost no time in starting the race with a black flag, claiming three premature starters. The moderate breeze persisted, creating a short chop that was difficult to sail over when the wind pressure dropped. Nick Craig (GBR) rounded the windward mark first, with Karl Purdie (NZL) close behind. Having been penalised by the jury in race 1 Craig sailed a conservative reach, Purdie however, managed to surf past and steadily increased his lead for the remainder of the race. Andre Blasse (AUS) managed to pass Craig, as did Jorgen Lindhardtzen (DEN) on the line!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Karl Purdie NZL
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Andre Blasse AUS
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jorgen Lindhardtzen DEN
- 4<sup>th</sup> Nick Craig GBR
- 5<sup>th</sup> Thomas Hansson-Mild SWE
- 6<sup>th</sup> Greg Wilcox NZL
- 7<sup>th</sup> Terry Curtis GBR
- 8<sup>th</sup> Pawel Pawlaczyk POL
- 9<sup>th</sup> Antoni Pawlowski POL
- 10<sup>th</sup> Bo-Staffan Andersson SWE

### **Day 1 reflections**

Purdie, who leads the fleet, reflected on the day's racing. "The first race was OK, but I did not get a good start, spending most of the time on Curtis' transom". "The shifts are predictable, and with everyone travelling at very similar speeds, it is difficult to get past your opponents." "In the second race I had a better start and was able to be more aggressive than Craig in my sailing of the reaches as he had received the yellow flag in the first race." "I am pleased with my results – though they are not as good as last year's." He won both races last year!

Ex-Olympian, Lindhardtsen continues to show the rest of the fleet how to sail an OK Dinghy. He is currently in second place, on equal points with Purdie. Now 64 years of age, more than twenty years Purdie's senior, he commented that it could have been so much worse as, whilst trying to break out from Curtis' cover, he did a bad tack, just saving a capsize by pirouetting back onto his original tack.

Blasse commented "it was a good day", as he made the most of the breezy conditions and the seasoned campaigner Curtis said "this is my best first day at a World Championship."

Event website: [www.kalmarraceweek.se](http://www.kalmarraceweek.se)

Class website: [www.okdia.org](http://www.okdia.org)

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